Cannock & Rugeley
CHRONICLE
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'PARANOID' MAN KNIFED PARTNER

BY MARION BRENNAN

A 'PARANOID' man stabbed his partner during a violent and prolonged attack because he thought she was cheating on him, a court heard.

The assault by 29-year-old Timothy Philpott began when his partner was feeding their four-week old son and ended, several minutes later, when he stabbed her in the chest, leaving the blade in the wound.

Neighbours in their Cannock street were so alarmed at her screams and the couple's raised voices that they ran to the house, but Philpott had fled through a first-floor window, Stafford Crown Court heard.

Mr Michael Aspinall, prosecuting, said that on the day before the attack in February the defendant approached his partner carrying a hammer and a knife, accusing her of seeing someone who lived nearby.

Philpott had put the weapons away when she threatened to call the police but 'remained paranoid' that she was having an affair, he added.

The following day, his partner went to bed early, to be woken at 1.30am by the baby's cries.

She asked Philpott to hold the child and calm him while she prepared a bottle of milk but when she returned the defendant was asleep, the court heard.

Snatched

The mother-of-two was 'angry' and then noticed his mobile phone flashing and realised he had been using a dating app, Mr Aspinall said.

Philpott woke and snatched the phone from her hand as she was feeding the infant and rammed his fingers into her mouth.

The 26-year-old managed to put the baby on the bed but the defendant got on top of her, the court heard. As she screamed at him 'You could have killed my baby', he stopped and apologised, offering to leave the property.

His partner asked for her phone back so she could call the police, which led him to punch her in the face, causing her to hit her head on the bedroom wall and fall. As she lay in the foetal position, he kicked her in the face.

Once more, Philpott was overcome with remorse but his partner told him he would not see their children as a result of the attack so he told her 'I might as well kill you' and fetched a carving knife from the kitchen. He stabbed her in the stomach tried to slash her throat. He also dragged her by her hair, said Mr Aspinall.

Philpott, of Laburnum Avenue, Cannock, pleads guilty to attempted murder. The hearing was adjourned until August 17 for sentencing.

DREAM COMES TRUE FOR JOSH ON PROM NIGHT

Josh Cartwright and friend Ethan Wilkes before the prom *Picture courtesy of Burntwood and Cannock Chase Community First Responders*

BRAVE schoolboy Josh Cartwright didn't let a tough year of cancer treatment stop him going to his school prom. . . in an ambulance car.

The 16-year-old Great Wyrley High pupil – who dreams of being a paramedic – turned up to the end of school party on blue lights with his pals. Josh was diagnosed with thyroid cancer in November and underwent surgery and radiotherapy treatment earlier this year, but it had complications.

Despite this, he has still taken his GCSEs. And Burntwood and Cannock Chase Community First Responders stepped in to help him turn up to his prom in style.

Upon arrival, the group coordinator, Dan Walsh, even turned on the sirens on the First Responders vehicle to make an entrance.

His mother Helen Cartwright, 44, said: "Josh wants to work for the NHS and wants to be a paramedic. He has done voluntary work shifts with West Midlands Ambulance Service and when he was diagnosed they invited him on a special visit to the air ambulance base in Tatenhill.

"They then got in touch with the Community First Responders (CFR). They have been amazing. It is one thing that has kept him going, knowing that he had it to look forward to. He has had a lot of low moments but his sense of humour has got him through it all too. He had complications with the surgery and had to have two more on top of what we expected. It has been a rough ride but he is a strong lad mentally to go through all of this."

Burntwood and Cannock Chase Community First Responders posted the photo on Facebook with the message: "Tonight we were honoured to be asked to make a young man's dream come true.

"Josh, who is fighting cancer, has always shown an interest in ambulances so tonight we used our response car to take him to his school prom.

"Have a fantastic evening Josh from all at Burntwood & Cannock First Responders."

COURT

Woman, 61, denies fatal drive charge

A STAFFORDSHIRE woman has denied killing a 71-year-old man through dangerous driving.

Christine Gerard, aged 61, from Birmingham Road, Lichfield,pleaded not guilty at Stafford Crown Court to causing the death of Maurice Murcott while driving dangerously along Hill Street, Cannock, on November 11 last year. The defendant admitted an alternative charge of causing the death by careless driving.

She was remanded on bail to stand trial on the outstanding charge at the same court on January 7 next year.

DISRUPTION

Chase Line chaos as bird hits train

PASSENGERS faced delays after a train was damaged when a bird hit it.

The train stopped between Walsall and Rugeley Trent Valley on Friday morning. West Midlands Railway said a 'bird strike' damaged a pipe on the train, leaving it unable to run.

Replacement buses were put on for affected passengers. The line re-opened at about 1pm but disruption continued for another hour and a half.

FIRE

Huge countryside blaze 'deliberate'

ARSONISTS are believed to have started a huge blaze in a crop field that sent smoke billowing over south Staffordshire.

Firefighters were called to put out the blaze, which had spread to 500 yards by 500 yards, in Bognop Road, Essington.

The fire broke out at 3pm on Monday and crews from Cannock, Chase Terrace, Rugeley and the West Midlands attended.

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SNAP UP THIS PHOTO CALL

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Plant spotted after 100-year absence

Great sundew – confirmed

A CARNIVOROUS plant species has been recorded in Staffordshire for the first time in 100 years.

The great sundew has been identified at Gentleshaw Common nature reserve following the hard work of a volunteer group. It was last recorded in the county in 1919 and was spotted by Staffordshire Wildlife Trust's southern heathlands warden Hayley Dorrington during a recent visit to the site.

She spotted the incredible find at the reserve when the 'strange looking round leaved sundew' was seen.

But on closer inspection, it was confirmed as the great sundew. Hayley said: "To find the great sundew at Gentleshaw Common has been a personal highlight of mine since I've been in the role since 2015.

"Our volunteers have worked really hard to improve the site, and a botanical find of this significance is evidence that the work we are doing is successful."

In the west of England, it is thought that this is the only site between the New Forest and south Cumbria where this plant inhabits.

Since taking over the management of the site in 2016, volunteers from the trust have been busy working to restore the site by cutting some of the dense tussocks of purple moor-grass. Purple moor-grass is a valuable resource for invertebrates and if left unchecked, develops tall and dense tussocks, which can choke other botanical species.

Gentleshaw Common is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest for its lowland heathland habitat. Within the heathland, the common has areas of wet heath and a valley mire.

The valley drains to the Redmoor Brook and has peat soils which support a rare county example of wet heathland.

Fewer claim benefits as employment hits a high

FEWER people are claiming unemployment benefits in Cannock as the number in work in the region has reached a record high of 2.78 million.

The claimant count total in Cannock Chase was down 45 to 870 or 1.4 per cent of the working population last month.

Councillor Mark Winnington, Staffordshire County Council's economy leader, said a decade-long economic growth programme for Staffordshire which could see the creation of nearly 20,000 jobs will also deliver better paid employment.

Across the county, 1.3 per cent of the population is claiming out of work benefits, and the number was down 165 to 6,975.

The Staffordshire claimant count figure is lower than both regional (2.8 per cent) and national (2.1 per cent) averages. Councillor Winnington said: "We have near full employment in Staffordshire, and we will work hard to ensure this continues."

Unemployment has fallen in the West Midlands with the number in work in the region at 2.78 million.

Vacancies

Nationally the number of people in work and job vacancies have also reached new record levels. Employment in the UK rose by 137,000 in the quarter to May to 32.4 million, the highest since records began in 1971, giving a record rate of 75.7 per cent, and vacancies were up by 7,000 to 824,000 – the most since records began in 2001.

For the West Midlands the number in work is up 137,000 on the year.

Nationally unemployment fell by 12,000 to 1.41 million, giving a jobless rate of 4.2 per cent, the joint lowest for more than 30 years, according to the Office for National Statistics. The West Midlands figure was down 2,000 to 141,000 (4.8 per cent of the working population). Over the course of the last year it has fallen by 25,000.

Average earnings increased by 2.5 per cent in the year to May, compared with 2.4 per cent the previous month.

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Campaign aims for 8,555 poppies

Rev Sue Culver helps to launch the Penkridge Poppies campaign at Penkridge Methodist Church

THOUSANDS of poppies will cascade down Penkridge Methodist Church to mark the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day.

'Penkridge Poppies' wants the community to make more than 8,555 poppies – one for every person in the town – to pay tribute on November 11. Community groups and individuals have been getting involved to make the poppies, which will be used to create Penkridge's own version of the Tower of London display Fields of Blood.

The finished poppies will be arranged similarly down the front of the church building. Rev Sue Culver said: "It will make for a wonderful eye-catching and moving display for everyone to see."

There will also be two 'crafternoon' events in the Church Hall on September 1 and October 6, between midday and 3pm which are open to everyone.

For more details go to www.facebook.com/penkridgepoppies

Crisis over timetables delays new rail services

PLANS to bring more trains and faster journeys to the railways have been delayed by five months.

West Midlands Trains, which last year took over services previously operated by London Midland, had pledged to introduce a raft of improvements in December this year.

It means that the new fast services from the West Midlands to London have been postponed, as well as larger trains to create extra capacity between Birmingham New Street and London. Plans to introduce later trains serving Wolverhampton, and better connections between London, Birmingham and the north-west via Walsall are also on hold.

The recent chaos caused by the launch of the summer timetable in the north of England has led to the Rail Delivery Group, which oversees rail services across the UK, delaying the changes until May 2019.

Francis Thomas of West Midlands Trains said the company had been ready to launch the new services, but was asked to delay them because of the situation elsewhere.

Mr Thomas said: "We have already put a lot of work and preparation into the timetable improvements planned for December this year, and our preparations are on schedule."

The Rail Delivery Group said timetables were routinely updated in May and December to allow for seasonal variations and that the changes introduced in May were the largest in recent history.

Bus firm's thanks for user feedback

ARRIVA has thanked passengers who took the time to meet its representatives during Catch the Bus Week.

The company invited people to meet its team and the Campaign for Better Transport at Cannock bus station, to give their feedback and discuss services in greater depth following recent network changes.

Simon Mathieson, area managing director for Arriva Midlands North, said: "We appreciate the recent alterations made to our Staffordshire network have caused disruption for bus users across Cannock, but we wanted to offer our reassurance that we are still committed to the local area."

Purse theft arrests

A MAN and woman have been arrested in Cannock in connection with a spate of purse thefts from elderly women. Staffordshire Police have since issued a warning to shoppers to ensure that their purses are placed at the bottom of bags and they are zipped up.

Appeal for witnesses as man dies on the M6

A MAN died after being involved in a collision with a lorry on the M6.

The incident happened between junctions 14 and 13 on the southbound carriageway near Stafford at 12.30pm on Sunday.

There were long delays back to junction 16 for Crewe as a result.

Paramedics and an air ambulance were sent to the scene but the man, who is believed to have been a pedestrian, was pronounced dead at 1pm.

Traffic caught in the closed stretch of the road was stuck for about 90 minutes and some drivers queued to buy refreshments from an ice cream van as they waited.

A Staffordshire Police spokesman urged anyone with dashcam footage to get in touch and said: "A road traffic collision on the M6 southbound between junctions 14 and 13 this afternoon has resulted in a man dying.

"A collision occurred between a lorry and a man on the M6 at around 12.30pm today.

"Colleagues from the Central Motorway Police Group and the Collision Investigation Unit, alongside the West Midlands Ambulance Service, attended and unfortunately a man was pronounced dead at around 1pm.

The man's identity is not yet known. Anyone who witnessed the collision or has dashcam footage of the incident is urged to contact 101 quoting incident number 426 of 15 July.

Club allowed to change farmland

A SPORTS club has been given the green light to create a new playing field on farmland.

Cannock Chase Council's planning committee unanimously approved Rugeley Cricket Club's application for the change of use of agricultural land next to its Chaseley Road base.

But the club will be required to submit full details of a parking area, with at least 40 spaces plus an overspill area, before development work can begin. Brereton councillor Paul Fisher said: "It would be an asset to the community, on the condition that car parking is sufficient."

Councillor Alan Pearson said: "With the power station closing and losing their sports facilities I'm quite happy to go with this."

Fine food market

A FINE Food and Craft Market will be held in Penkridge on Saturday. The event runs between 9am and 3.30pm at Penkridge Market. Admission is free. Anyone requiring further information can call 01785 714221.

Contest to find picture perfect children

DO you have the cutest child? Does your little one look adorable in photographs? Then your child could be crowned a winner in the Baby and Toddler of the Year contest, run by our sister publication The Express & Star.

Entry is free and open to parents/guardians within the E&S circulation area with a child aged five or under.

Our official photographer will be at intu Merry Hill between July 23 and 29 and at the Mander Centre in Wolverhampton between July 30 and August 4. All pictures will be published in an E&S supplement and they will appear on the paper's website.

Parents will be able to bring along their children along to be photographed and will then be invited back to choose the perfect picture for the supplement. If they cannot choose, one will be selected for them.

The children will be split into four age categories; 0-9 months, 10-18 months, 19-35 months and 3-5 years. Readers will be invited to vote for their favourite. There will be a winner in all brackets, with a £500 for prize for each category and extra £250 for the the overall winner. To vote, simply choose your favourite from all the entries.

The photographs will also be featured in the E&S on Wednesday, September 12.

Once you've chosen, cut out the special vote tokens printed each day until October 13. The deadline for returning tokens is October 19.

Along with your vote tokens, complete a Voting Tokens Return Form, either downloaded and printed from the website or using the form available in the E&S.

Be sure to include the child's name, age category and unique voting code number.

Readers may vote as many times as they like using the vote tokens, which can be sent in batches or all together in one envelope after all tokens have appeared. Voting Tokens Return Forms MUST be sent each time tokens are sent in.

Staffordshire 'better' for driving test success

LEARNER drivers in Staffordshire have a better chance of passing their test than most places in the country.

Both Stafford and Cannock test centres boast pass rates above the national average, figures show. It comes after a rise in rookie drivers failing their test in many areas, including the Black Country.

The figures from the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency show that Stafford's Frank Foley Way centre was one of the best for passes. It carried out 2,807 tests – 1,495 for women and 1,312 for men –and there were 1,393 passes, at a rate of 49.6 per cent.

And it was an even better picture at Cannock test centre on Old Hednesford Road, which carried out 1,308 tests – 737 for women and 571 for men and there were 685 passes, at a rate of 52.4 per cent.

In Lichfield, out of 6,939 tests, there were 3,455 passes, at a rate of 49.8 per cent.

Toughest

But at test centres in Wolverhampton and Wednesbury 37.5 per cent of all learners passed their practical tests between April 2017 and March 2018 – less than the national average of 46 per cent. There was a better pass rate at Dudley's Lower Gornal centre where 48.9 per cent passed (4,861).

The toughest place to pass in the country was The Pavilion test centre, in Birmingham, where 30.2 per cent of learner drivers got their licence. Wolverhampton test centre conducted 8,354 tests over 2017-18 and 3,142 people passed, while in Wednesbury 7,683 tests took place and 2,844 people passed. In Dudley 55.3 per cent per cent of men who attempted the practical test managed to pass, compared to 43.7 per cent of women.

DVSA deputy chief examiner Gordon Witherspoon said: "All candidates are assessed to the same level. We expect people to become more familiar with the new test and we'll continue to monitor it."

The driving test was changed on December 4 last year, with many observers saying the new test is tougher than the old one.

Delivery man Geoff calls it a day

Matt Evans, managing director at e.d.s. Couriers, wishes Geoff Elson all the best for his retirement

A CANNOCK courier firm has said a fond farewell to a much-loved driver on his retirement, after delivering for nearly a half a century.

Geoff Elson, aged 65, started his career as a Walsall milkman aged 17 before becoming a delivery driver for a number of local firms.

He took up his position with eds Couriers in the early 2000s and has become a familiar face, both in the depot and with his regular customers who looked forward to his smile and witty banter.

Geoff said: "It's not just about driving, I got to engage with and get to know a lot of people.

"I always tried my best to provide a good service to customers, with a regular schedule and consistency with delivery and collections. If you can't do this as a driver, you're in the wrong job."

Matt Evans, e.d.s. managing director, said: "Geoff is a real character and has been a fantastic ambassador for our company."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Colour chaos event to aid RAFA funds

THE Royal Air Forces Association wants to keep everyone near RAF Cosford in the pink at a colour run.

RAFA Colour Chaos takes place on August 26. The family event, which is open to the public, is being held within the grounds of RAF Cosford and will challenge participants to take part in about 5km of colourful fun. People can run, jog, dance, or walk while they get plastered in powder paint.

The course will pass points of interest around the airfield and provides an opportunity to see 'behind the wire' at an active RAF station.

Proceeds will help fund the association's Storybook Wings project.

History of Chase in 'laser' display

A NEW pop-up exhibition showcasing more than 2,000 years of human activity on Cannock Chase is set to tour Staffordshire's libraries.

The Chase Through Time project made the findings which have shone a light on the Chase's history, revealing more than 400 archaeological sites relating to the Great War and prehistoric monuments – without digging up the area.

The discovery was made possible through aerial photography technology and LIDAR, a laser driven detection system.

Council prospectus means business

LICHFIELD District Council has produced an investment prospectus as part of its aim to promote business opportunities to a wider audience,

It features information on development sites including Burntwood Business Park, Lichfield South Business Park, Liberty Park, Prologis Park, and Fradley Park, as well as opportunities for investment, such as the former GKN site on Trent Valley Road and land at Cricket Lane, Lichfield.

The prospectus is available to download from www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/investmentprospectus

I, Tonya is next for Blockbuster Nights

THE Lichfield Garrick continues its Big Screen Blockbuster Nights with the critically acclaimed and multi-award winning I, Tonya being screened on Saturday in its main auditorium.

Starring Margot Robbie, Sebastian Stan and Allison Janney, this biographical film recaptures one of sports greatest and most controversial rivalries which shocked the world in the 1990s. Call 01543 412121 for details.

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COUNTY NEWS

Steam goes off the rails at SVR

SEVERN Valley Railway is to temporarily only run its heritage diesel locomotives to reduce the risk of fire in the on-going hot and dry weather.

The Railway has taken the precaution following a number of small fires which broke out along the line.

To reduce the risk of further fires and the added pressure on the fire service, the SVR's heritage diesel locomotives will be replacing their steam counterparts for journeys. The measures will due to be reviewed yesterday, Wednesday, and reviews will continue on a day-to-day basis. Nick Ralls, the SVR's general manager, said: "This really is an exceptional occurrence."

Morrisons offer to cut plastic use

SUPERMARKET chain Morrisons is trialling vending machines for the return of single-use plastic bottles to reduce their environmental impact.

The two reverse vending machines will be installed at stores in Skipton, North Yorkshire, and Lindsayfield, Scotland, for six months and will allow customers to deposit bottles in return for points coupons. The machines accept all plastic bottles that have a barcode and Morrisons own-brand bottles that may not have one.

Customers can return a maximum of 20 bottles a day and receive 100 Morrisons More points in the form of a coupon which can be spent in store.

City pub is all set for displays

A BIRMINGHAM city centre pub is holding an art exhibition. The Core Collective is running in The Gunmakers Arms in Bath Street and Two Towers Brewery from August 5.

It will feature sculptures, textile art, photographs, digital art, mixed media pieces and portraits. The brewery is also presenting an event celebrating the 100 years of the suffragettes and Nicola Gauld from Community Engagement Outreach will be telling their story on August 12 from 4pm.

Open day on way at pet hospital

ANIMAL lovers and budding vets are being invited to a fun-filled open day at a Black Country pet hospital.

The Oldbury PDSA Pet Hospital will throw open its doors on Wednesday, July 25, between 10am and 2pm.

Visitors will have the chance to go behind the scenes of the busy hospital in St Matthews Road, to see where life-saving pet operations are carried out.

Restored vintage vehicles at steam fair

VINTAGE fairground vehicles will be heading to the region this weekend for a heritage steam fair event.

The Carter's Steam Fair's heritage Road Run will begin in Lichfield's Beacon Park on Saturday at 10am.

Steam enthusiasts will get the chance to see a collection of restored vintage vehicles on the day.

For the last 40 years and more, the Berkshire-based Carter family have been rescuing heritage fairground vehicles from all over the country and restoring them at their yard.

Throughout the summer months they take their vintage fair on tour around south-east England and once a year they come to Lichfield – the furthest north that the fair travels.

Steam and fair enthusiasts travel from all over the Midlands and northern England to see the vehicles. Fairground owner Joby Carter said: "We are technically a family of artists and the fair is our canvas, we hand-paint everything using traditional methods keeping everything as you would have found it when new.

"The road run gives us a chance to showcase these vintage attractions so the public can all enjoy them too."

Many of the vehicles are found in a dilapidated state, and fairground owners Joby and Georgina Carter work with their team to make them roadworthy and repaint them in a traditional fairground style.

Everything on the fair, including the rides, vehicles and caravans, is painted by hand in designs that are faithful to how they would have originally looked.

The fair is open Saturday midday to 11pm, and Sunday midday to 9pm.

Music festival is moved after residents' uproar

By Charlotte Callear

A MUSIC festival has failed to get off the ground after fierce opposition.

Plans to stage Glo Festival at Four Oaks Farm in Rugeley sparked concern over traffic chaos and noise levels.

Now organisers FMD Events UK Ltd are moving this year's event to Burton – much to the 'relief' of people living near the proposed site – but they still hope to stage it in Rugeley in 2019.

The festival, set to take place from August 31 to September 2, will feature camping, three stages for tribute acts and local artists, a fairground and children's area.

FMD director Fran Green said: "It is a family festival that got the community involved and it was never meant to be an adult-only event. We will take every precaution possible when organising the festival for next year."

Concerns

Nearby resident Joan Redfern said: "We are somewhat relieved that it has been put on hold.

"But with regards to the environment and traffic concerns, there will be the same objections next year.

"The residents of Etching Hill Road will strenuously raise the same objections with any future applications," Ms Redfern said.

"The main thing is being informed of the applications because we feel we have not be informed correctly."

FMD Events UK Ltd applied for premises and alcohol licenses, which were set to be discussed at a licensing sub-committee meeting this week.

Ms Redfern added: "We feel word of mouth has been the only way residents have learned of the licence application.

Tickets for the festival have gone on sale online and auditions have been held for local performers, who have welcomed the festival.

Store raises £19k for chosen charity

The money raised will be put towards training new puppies to become guide dogs

STAFF at Sainsbury's Cannock have raised £19,522 to support their chosen charity, Guide Dogs for the Blind.

The store has supported the charity since July 2017 and helped to raise funds by holding raffles, tombolas, and collections and selling merchandise.

The money raised will be put towards training new puppies to become guide dogs.

A spokesman for the charity said: "We're very touched by the generosity of Sainsbury's Cannock colleagues. The money they've already raised has really made a difference to us and we look forward to future fundraising events."

Store manager Andy Beardmore said: "It's been fantastic to see the way everyone's pulled together since we started working with Guide Dogs. We've enjoyed coming up with ways to support and volunteer for this very worthy cause and it's great to think that we're making a positive difference to so many people."

Developer's plans for commercial buildings

A DEVELOPER has revealed plans for almost 880,000 sq ft of commercial buildings across Staffordshire.

St Modwen, which has regenerated the former Goodyear site in Wolverhampton and Longbridge in Birmingham, is targeting three sites in the county for major building work.

It has submitted reserved matters planning applications for 879,000 sq ft of space, including one site at Hilton in South Staffordshire.

It is part of the developer's 1.8 million sq ft of development planned for this year as it focuses on high-quality industrial and logistics projects.

St Modwen has submitted plans for 65,000 sq ft of commercial space at Hilton Business Park, with a proposed further phase of 80,000 sq ft on a design-and-build basis.

It has also proposed 478,000 sq ft at Tamworth Logistics Park, with the intention of creating up to five units, while reserved matters have also been submitted for 336,000 sq ft of commercial space at St Modwen's Uttoxeter Gateway site, for a range of units up to 136,000 sq ft.

Gregg Titley, development director at St Modwen, said: "There's a clear lack of supply for commercial space in the region and Tamworth Logistics Park, Uttoxeter Gateway and Hilton Business Park all present fantastic opportunities to develop large warehouses that are located near to key arterial routes.

"These developments are in line with St Modwen's strategy to identify and develop well-connected areas in the Midlands, promoting inward investment, creating jobs and attracting key businesses."

'Apply now' for home insulation

HOUSEHOLDS are being encouraged to apply for funding for loft or cavity wall insulation, before new rules come in that will change who will qualify for the grants.

Lichfield District Council's energy advice service, Warmer Homes Greener District, is hoping local people will call their free phone number to find out how to access energy insulation grants.

To qualify, residents don't need to receive benefits or be on a low income. However, in the future, changes to the scheme mean that only low-income households will qualify for grants.

For more information and to register for funding, contact the Warmer Homes Greener District team for free on 0800 677 1543. Alternatively email whgd@mea.org.uk

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New health centre plans 'meet needs of patients'

PLANS to redevelop the site of a former residential care home in Burntwood into a new health centre for local families have moved a step closer.

The proposals involve breathing new life into the site of the former Greenwood House. Staffordshire County Council own the site, which is earmarked for use by the Darwin Practice as a health centre. The council also intends to seek a tenant to occupy the adjoining pharmacy.

Councillor Alan White, deputy leader and cabinet member for health, care and wellbeing, said: "Supporting independence at all ages and providing a good quality of life are all key priorities for the county council.

"This proposal, utilising a previously dormant plot of land to provide additional capacity for the local GP practice, means people in Burntwood can look forward to a new, state-of-the-art accessible practice that meets the needs of local people."

Councillor Mark Deaville, cabinet member for commercial, said the proposals were subject to planning approval and funding being in place, with the aim of leasing the site for 60 years.

The plans were being discussed at a county council cabinet meeting yesterday (Wednesday). The council says more detailed plans 'will be shared with the local community as part of the planning process'.

Healthcare to be better Connected

A NEW way of providing healthcare is on the way in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent.

Your Care Connected is an electronic system which will link NHS and local government organisations more closely, in order to provide the best possible care.

The new digital shared care record means patients will no longer have to repeat information to different health and care professionals and avoid having to undergo unnecessary duplication of tests.

Your Care Connected is being spearheaded by Together We're Better, the partnership of NHS and local government organisations that is working to transform health and care services in the county.

Group's next walk

CHASE Ramblers' outing this Sunday is an eight-mile moderate/strenuous walk from Church Stretton, meeting at Hednesford railway station car park for a 9am prompt departure. Call 01922 416213 for details.

Little Miss Dynamite returns for concert

Elizabeth Harrison – 'delightful'

Burntwood Music For All Group will welcome back Lancashire entertainer Elizabeth Harrison for a concert today (Thursday).

Often nicknamed Little Miss Dynamite, she is regarded as one of the most popular and sought after names on the UK keyboard concert circuit.

Concert organiser Marie Powell said: "Liz has earned herself a wonderful reputation both as a fantastic musician and entertainer, but also as something of a 'get up and go' person, with her rural farm dwelling in Lancashire and also her diverse talents and skills which include being a fully qualified landscape gardener and designer, as well as holding an HGV and PSV.

"On stage, she delights her audience with tales of the above as well as her fascination with 'Home Pride Fred' – the crowd are always fascinated by her latest tales of everyday life.

"But it is her superb musicianship at the controls of the Roland AT-350 organ that offers the greatest delight.

"Her programme is bound to include popular classics, marches, swing time, songs from the shows, sounds of the Blackpool Tower Wurlitzer, Latin and some wonderful nostalgic pop hits from the 50s, 60s and 70s. A truly delightful character and one of the most popular and sought after names on the UK keyboard concert circuit."

Elizabeth will be performing at Burntwood Memorial Institute Hall, in Rugeley Road, Burntwood, at 7.30pm.

Tickets are £7.50 on the door, there is ample free parking, a licensed bar, raffle and disabled access. For further details call 01530 274270.

Thug sent back to jail for attacking girlfriend

A thug with a history of violence towards women is back behind bars after launching another attack.

Shane Gittings beat up his latest girlfriend twice within nine months of being freed early from a seven and a half year jail term, a judge heard. The 28-year-old, who has 20 previous convictions involving 33 separate offences, carried out the offence on December 8.

Gittings, of Huntington Terrace Road, Cannock, told the victim to shut the curtains before attacking her with a cosh, Stafford Crown Court was told. He also pushed the 22-year-old onto a sofa and smashed an ornament of great sentimental value.

Later he put a hand over her mouth, restricting her breathing, and told her 'If you tell the police I will kill you when I get out', Mr Peter Gilmour, prosecuting, said.

On New Year's Day, he flew into another violent rampage pulling out a clump of her hair and biting her cheek before throwing a kitchen knife in her direction, Mr Gilmour added.

Drugs

The victim ended the relationship, triggering a barrage of phone calls and text messages. Within days a women's refuge helped her to move to a secret address while he put intimate photographs of her on the internet.

Mr Neil Gerrity, defending, said: "His life has been blighted by drink and drugs and this has contributed to most of his offending." He said Gittings had been freed early from the seven and a half year term in April last year.

It had been imposed in March 2014 after Gittings – living in Bevan Lee Road, Cannock, at the time – slashed the face of a stranger he had deliberately barged into in Pennine Way on August 17, 2013 while on bail for a 'cowardly' assault on an earlier partner.

The latest offences sent him back to jail to complete the rest of the sentence because they broke the rules of his early release, meaning he will not be freed until February 2021 unless the Parole Board step in sooner. Gittings was jailed for a further 18 months by Judge Michael Challinor which will be served at the same time as the existing term but will not add to it.

Bev beats the drum in praise of Anita

Anita Castellina, who has been awarded a BEM for 30 years of service to the community, with Bev Bevan

A CHARITY has been celebrating two important milestones in its history.

Avon Business & Leisure Ltd in Cannock is celebrating its 50th anniversary while paying tribute to Anita Castellina, who has dedicated 30 years to the group.

Financial director Anita, who organises fundraising and grant applications, has spent 30 years with the organisation, which has supported its local community through a number of sports classes and private function room hire since 1968.

Now, both milestones have been recognised at a fete that welcomed a local famous face. Bev Bevan of Electric Light Orchestra fame unveiled a plaque to commemorate the 50th anniversary and to present Anita with a small gift.

In addition to marking Anita's 30 years of service, the fete was also a celebration of the British Empire Medal that she received for her years of civil service, which was presented to her by Cannock Chase MP Amanda Milling.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Vulnerable people helped by scheme

A SCHEME to help find vulnerable people with dementia who go missing has been launched.

Staffordshire Police are behind the Herbert Protocol Initiative.

Figures show that in 2015-16, 1,058 adults were reported missing, with 32 having dementia.

The early intervention scheme is designed to find people suffering from the condition more quickly.

Nursing home staff from Staffordshire recently attended events held by the force to launch the scheme.

Diane Malkin, vulnerability manager for the force, said: "This protocol is very important to us."

Website again gets full marks

LICHFIELD District Council's website has been awarded four out of four stars in the national review of local government websites for the second year running.

This means the website is in the top four percent of district and borough councils nationwide, and in the top nine per cent of local government websites overall.

Only 39 out of 414 council websites were awarded a four star rating, and www.lichfielddc.gov.uk is the only district or borough website in the West Midlands to have achieved this rating.

MP helps canals group mark 30th

MICHAEL Fabricant joined the Lichfield & Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust on their stand at Cars in the Par – and shared a mug of bubbly to celebrate the group's 30th year.

"I refused to toast the next 30 years as I hope the canals will be restored long before then," the Lichfield MP, who is a patron of the trust, said.

"I did work out that, in theory, just one day's worth of payment to the EU would be enough money to complete the Lichfield canal.

"That would be a great Brexit dividend," he added.

Police plea on theft of horse from field

AN appeal has been launched to find a horse that was stolen from a field.

Described as a black and white two-year-old Gypsy Cob, the animal was stolen from a field by the A518 Newport Road in Gnosall last Tuesday.

PCSO Patrick Wright said: "If you ave any information as to either the whereabouts of the horse, or have witnessed any suspicious activity, please call us on 101 and quote serial 0121/06/07.18."

IN MY VIEW
with Mark Andrews

Not sold on market landmark entrance

THE finishing touches are being put to Wolverhampton's £5 million market, with the piece de resistance being a new landmark entrance. And it is certainly that. Visitors to the new showpiece, on the site of the old Rackhams store in Snow Hill, will be greeted with a pile of shabby-looking shipping containers with City of Wolverhampton Market written across one of them. Very Shoreditch.

Personally speaking, I think they've missed a trick. Why not put in a pile of partially dissembled Ford Cortinas, a crane with a giant magnet, and a tattooed skinhead in a caravan holding a pit-bull on a string? Still, I suppose £5 million doesn't go that far these days.

The public response has been somewhat lukewarm, in that everybody hates it. Which, of course, will be music to the ears of the "creatives". "Provoking debate" and "providing an interesting talking point," will no doubt be their interpretation. Then again, The Blitz got people talking, but you wouldn't say it was entirely good for London, would you?

Do they never learn? It was the same in the early 1990s, when Wolverhampton Council had the bright idea of blocking the roads with huge flower tubs. A few months later they were removed at great expense following uproar from the public.

Then there was the hideous 'artwork' along both the Black Country Route and the Dudley Southern Bypass. I remember driving past the Cinder Bank roundabout in Dudley one morning when these random bits of orange metal suddenly appeared. I thought a lorry had shed its load. Still, credit where it's due, at least the new market is true to the history of the site. It was an eyesore before the investment, and it's an eyesore now.

❐❐❐

TEACHER Helen Pattison was among the protesters demonstrating against Donald Trump's visit to the UK. Good for her you might think. Everyone has the right to protest. Except that Miss Pattison not only staged a classroom walkout to take part but also told a newspaper she was taking pupils along with her too.

"We have not just a right to protest, but a duty," she said. Well, no actually. Your duty is to teach pupils skills that will get them a job when they leave school. And to be impartial, leaving your political views at home, no matter how strongly you feel.

The Department for Education recently hit out at parents who took their children on term-time holidays, saying every day at school was valuable. Maybe they should have a word with Miss Pattison.

Time, perhaps, to dig out the long sleeves and trousers

Trump's arrival sparked comment from every conceivable, ill-educated source

Emotional Olivia Colman, who kicked off another series of Who Do You Think You Are?

Farewell to Poldark's evil vicar Osbourne Whitworth, played by Christian Brassington

Trump's visit to a well-red populace

OH, isn't it fun, sneering at the ill-educated lower orders? From the Guardian website comes this lofty put-down: "After all this hot weather Trump is going to feel at home. Rednecks everyware." Brilliant, darling – except that's not how you spell "everywhere."

AS the NHS prepares to ration 17 procedures, a reader suggests the ultimate aim is to ignore anyone who can be described as 'poorly'. Who knows? On this 70th birthday of our health service, all that seems to matter is that the NHS is 'free at the point of delivery'. Does anyone who spouts this well-worn and hugely misleading phrase ever visit a dentist or optician?

HAD that Barbour moment yet? It's the one, deep into a sweltering heatwave, when you open a wardrobe full of waxed jackets, fleeces and scarves and cannot imagine why you would ever wear such things again. Come February you may experience the exact opposite as you stumble upon your skimpy-shorts drawer. .

WELCOME back to Who Do You Think You Are (BBC1), a show in which celebrities compete to see how quickly they can burst into tears over something that happened hundreds of years ago to a distant relative they hadn't heard of until that moment. In the first show of the new series, Olivia Colman got off to a fine start by blubbing, after just 10 minutes, about her great-great-great-grandmother being sent from India to England at the age of three in 1812.

THIS is a delicate matter. As the height of the male population increases (from 5ft 8ins to 5ft 10ins in the past 50 years), is the height of public conveniences also rising? I fear an epidemic of RHU may be upon us. Your tales of Ridiculously High Urinals will be treated in strict confidence, unless they are amusing.

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

BEFORE long, a certain amount of wet stuff will presumably fall from the heavens and end England's drought. Two things about rain always take us by surprise. First, a few hours before the deluge, your house fills with big, black hairy spiders looking for shelter. Secondly, as water reacts with rubber and oil, the roads turn into ice-rinks. Bad times for arachnophobes, great opportunities for insurance firms to bump up premiums. Drive slowly and carry a big slipper.

IT never occurred to me that in Poldark's time, when ye streets were paved with manure and folk washed once every decade or so, that foot fetishism would be quite as popular as the ill-fated Reverend Osbourne Whitworth (Christian Brassington) suggests. Tic Tac, vicar?

"WE won't see anything like this again," declared one proud visitor in the Mall as the RAF's 100th anniversary flypast roared overhead. I wonder how many aircraft had to be cannibalised by RAF technicians to put all those 103 planes in the air at the same time. It took me back to the First Gulf War in 1990 when I was at the RAF base in Bahrain as the Tornados were being prepared for battle. In the heart of the plane is an access shaft where techies squeeze in to get at various black boxes and widgets. It was a job reserved for the smallest, thinnest bloke in the team and you couldn't help thinking of Victorian children being sent up chimneys.

I DO get a wee bit worried by those who take a malicious glee in telling us that it is impossible to leave the EU. Not even the British Empire hung on to its possessions so grimly. If we really are in an empire from which there is no escape it is, by definition, an evil empire.

I HAVE just been on another train. That makes three in eight years. This week's ride took me on the train from Coventry to Leamington Spa which now, after a gap of 53 years, again stops at Kenilworth. In ye olden days I was a trainee reporter on the Kenilworth Weekly News. In the silly season, we could always fill half a page with speculation about when the old station would be reopened. As the old saying goes, everything comes to he who waits (except the things that don't).

LEAMINGTON, like most big towns and cities has seen huge celebrations for the World Cup but not a drop of rain to wash away the results. I have never seen so much dried vomit despoiling the pavements. As that fine old football anthem goes: Three Lagers on My Shoes.

TALKING POINT

Fuelling my fears after filling up on hols

THE feeling is one of panic, tinged with confusion and dread.

After filling up with petrol on holiday, I walk towards the garage shop to pay, reach for my wallet, and find my pocket is empty. I go inside and explain my predicament.

The assistant is next to useless and seeks advice on what to do, muttering "This gentleman has a problem with petrol or something". I'll say it's a problem! I'm stranded in a strange place, and never having been in this situation before, have no idea what to do. It's not as if I can put the petrol back in the pump, is it?

The second assistant is more switched-on and gets straight to the point: "I can't let you drive off." Fair enough, but then I'm left in no doubt as to how serious this is. "Have you no means of paying at all?"

"Nothing."

"Bank card? Someone who can phone through with the payment? Contactless account on your phone?"

By now I'm trembling, my mouth is dry and I'm talking gobbledegook. After weighing up the options, I place said phone on the counter and offer to leave it as security. That suggestion triggers a solution. I'm asked for my name, address, make and model of vehicle, registration number and made to sign a print-out.

It's only when I get back to the car that I gather my thoughts sufficiently to remember there's always a bag of change in the glove box for parking, and so I start counting out coin after coin. It soon becomes obvious there isn't enough to pay for the petrol but then I put my hand back in my pocket and find just enough change to make up the total cost.

With tail between my legs, I slope back into the shop. "Guess what!"

"You've found your wallet?"

"No, but I've scraped together enough change to pay."

And so we count out all those coins again, and with phone back in my possession, I continue on my way.

Mind you, I'm glad I left it till later to read the small print on the "No means to pay at Pump 2" receipt, which said I had agreed to 'make payment within 24 hours' and ''advised' my details may be passed to a debt collecting agency if I did not comply with the agreement I signed. Talk about putting a dent in your day!

Nearly forgot: I retraced my steps and got my wallet back within an hour. I'd left it in a shop I'd been to before filling up.

Let this be a warning. Check you have the wherewithal before taking that nozzle out of the pump. Happy motoring!

STEVE PARLETT

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Hub sets out courses as agreement signed

A FULL list of courses being offered at the new Cannock Chase Skills and Innovation Hub has been unveiled.

The first students will start in September and eventually be able to access further, and in some cases higher, education in seven course areas and gain apprenticeship opportunities.

It comes following the announcement this summer that the Cannock campus of South Staffordshire College would be reopening.

New signage is now in place on the site, and discussions are taking place to create an Engineering Academy within the Hub with funding of £500,000 available from Cannock Chase Council.

There are also plans for a new retail academy provided by Walsall College which will link to the McArthurGlen designer outlet centre at Mill Green.

Outside the new Hub, from left, Steve Burgin, chair of governors at the college, Claire Boliver, chief executive principal of the college, Tony McGovern, managing director of Cannock Chase Council, and council leader Councillor George Adamson

Success

Last week the district council and the college signed a Memorandum of Understanding setting out the principles behind establishing the new hub.

It also gives details of how the partnership between the council and the college will plan for the success of the Hub over the coming years.

The full list of courses being offered 'over the next few years' is: Engineering/Advanced Manufacturing; Electrical Installation and Electrical Engineering; Energy; Construction; Digital; Health and Social Care and Early Years; Mathematics and English for employability.

Councillor George Adamson, leader of the council, said: "We are pleased that further education opportunities will soon be available again locally.

"The partnership is also about finding new ways of working with schools in Cannock Chase and ensuring there can be genuine progression into work or to gain higher level qualifications."

Claire Boliver, chief executive principal at South Staffordshire College, said: "The district's economy is growing, and our intention is that the new Skills and Innovation Hub will boost it further by equipping learners with the skills and qualifications they need to meet the needs of employers.

"This is a really positive initiative for Cannock Chase, and we look forward to working with the council and welcoming the first intake of students in September."

Among the principles set out in the Memorandum of Understanding is raising the skills and qualification levels in the district and meeting the needs of local and regional businesses for specific skills.

Councillor Diane Todd, portfolio leader for town centre regeneration, said: "It will be great to see students at the Hub. It's fair to say that since the campus has been unoccupied, there has been a noticeable drop in the number of people in the town centre during weekdays.

"Its opening is potentially good news for our retailers and eating places."

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Why I have cut up my party card

AS I suspected, T May turned out to be a 'remainer' in 'leave' clothes.

She cleverly 'kicked the can' down the road until the last minute. This will have major consequences for the Conservative Party, there are estimated to be 70 per cent of Tory Party members who are sceptics, many are very unhappy, how do I know? I am one of them.

Today I cut up my Conservative Party card and sent it to T May, I also applied to join UKIP, so what if they have no MPs at least I know they believe in exactly what I do, isn't that the main reason you vote for a party?

I hope UKIP now have a resurgence or better still a new party emerges.

T TURNER
Rugeley

VAR teams were definitely not on song

I WATCHED quite a few World Cup games, and have come to the conclusion there is an underlying vendetta against England.

In our very first match, the referee awarded very few blatant fouls in the first half against England, and the people in the VAR room were equally as poor. I suggest that after being told by VAR officials at half-time, the referee then decided to clamp down on pushing/shoving in the penalty area, and awarded a penalty to England.

Apparently the officials had been told to punish all this pushing and shoving in the penalty area yet they had total disregard for it in some matches.

The Colombia match was again a total farce of officialdom and how most of the team didn't get a yellow card for arguing with the referee I don't know.

Again in the first half of the Croatia match, the Croatian centre back and both left sided players should have had at least one or two yellow cards.

This brings to mind the again blatant unfairness of the Eurovision Song Contest. So to all the officials of the England games, and the people in the VAR room, you are all awarded 'nil pwa', for disgraceful decisions.

M DAVIS
Heath Hayes

A huge thank-you to carnival organisers

GREAT Wyrley Carnival was an excellent community event and enjoyed by thousands of people.

The effort that goes into this lovely occasion is greatly appreciated, and the organisers deserve a huge thank-you for all their hard work. I do, however, think a mention of the carnival queen, king, prince and princess was worthy in your front-page report (Chronicle, July 5).

Our own lovely granddaughter Myka was the princess, and I know how thrilled and excited she was – a memory she will keep forever. Also the winner of floats competition was the excellent St Thomas More Primary School, which is in Great Wyrley not Willenhall as you reported.

GILL KILLIP
Great Wyrley

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Counting the miles for ops

I READ there are concerns that people from north Staffordshire will have to face a 15-mile journey to Stafford Hospital if operations are transferred there.

I don't recall the same concerns being raised when people from Cannock and Rugeley had to go to Stoke for an operation. That journey is about 25 miles.

D EVANS
Rugeley

I will never vote again

NEVER in all my years have I seen such a bunch of MPs that we have now.

The one thing that gives me any satisfaction is I shall never vote again. It seems to me that if you are in a minority in this country the better you are looked after.

ROGER ALLEN
Great Wyrley

Hot stuffy cars are unbearable for dogs

THERE were 129 complaints to the RSPCA about dogs trapped in cars in the heat in Staffordshire last year.

Owners could get so focussed and distracted by their intentions – perhaps a meeting with someone, or what to purchase in the supermarket. Did they miscalculate the time they would take before they returned to the car? Or did they not care enough or have the common sense to realise what could happen to their dog?

The RSPCA has much bitter experience of finding even a window left open causing distress at the least.

When it's 22 degrees outside, inside a car can reach an unbearable 47 degrees. In a hot stuffy car, dogs can't reduce their body temperature by panting, and so will develop heatstroke, which kills.

CHRIS SEAL
Cannock

Recycling nothing new

RECYCLING seems to be the buzz word at the moment. As I recall, in the 1950s and 60s before plastic was king it was something we did automatically. Some corner shops gave one or two pence for every clean glass pop bottle returned. Milk was delivered to our doorsteps in emission-free vehicles and the empties collected daily. Recycling isn't anything new but perhaps educating a throwaway society is.

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20,000 new jobs are in 'growth' pipeline

BUSINESS development and infrastructure projects so far completed by the county council as part of a decade-long growth project could see the creation of nearly 20,000 jobs, a meeting will be told today (Thursday).

The total value of the 15 projects completed since the growth programme began in 2014 is £160 million, a report says.

Projects currently being carried out are valued at £204m – £15m of which is from direct county council investment.

So far on the completed sites such as i54 South Staffordshire and Redhill Business Park, there are already 6,650 people working or jobs have been committed.

Staffordshire County Council's economic growth leader Councillor Mark Winnington said: "We have near full employment in Staffordshire and we will work hard to ensure this continues.

Assisted

"Before the current programme ends a further 17,000 jobs will be created and 4,500 trainees, learners or apprentices supported. In addition to delivering the infrastructure to pave the way for business development we will build our network of support for small businesses which employ 55 per cent of our workforce."

The county council administers the Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Growth Hub on behalf of the local enterprise partnership (LEP). It gives support to small and medium sized businesses. Between May 2014 and May 2018 it has assisted more than 6,000 businesses.

An advanced manufacturing and engineering hub is being delivered across six sites to provide state-of-the-art learning facilities and equipment.

The Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee is discussing the economic growth report today (Thursday).

Charity awareness day

Parents Shaun and Adel Spicer with their son Jaxon, aged 14 months

A CHARITY event to raise awareness of Down Syndrome takes place in Cheslyn Hay next month.

Adel and Shaun Spicer, of Penn, are parents to 14-month-old Jaxon who was born with the condition.

They have organised a fun day, on Sunday, August 5, to include a bouncy castle, face painting, a DJ and a raffle as well as football match kicking off at 3pm.

The event runs from 10am to 6pm, at Hawkins Sports FC in Coppice Lane. Jaxon's parents were unaware he had Down Syndrome until he was born, so half of the donations from the fundraising day will go towards Down Syndrome awareness.

It will also support the neo-natal unit at New Cross Hospital, which offers life saving treatments to children who are born with difficulties or prematurely. Jaxon spent 13 days in total in the unit. Adel said: "He really came on so much."

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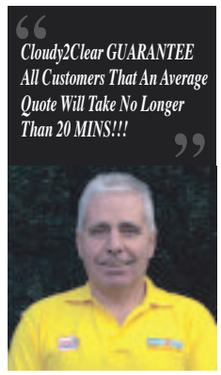

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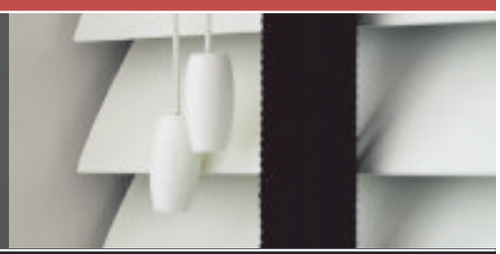

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Training day highlights the dangers of 'sexting'

Students taking part in the training day at Cannock Chase Civic Centre

CANNOCK and District Soroptimists are tackling the issue of sexting by delivering training sessions to pupils on the risks, both legal and emotional, of sending naked or near naked images.

Students from five schools attended the first workshop, at Cannock Chase Civic Centre.

As well as hearing from professionals about the legalities of sexting, the students discussed ways of taking the issue back to their school to share information. The schools taking part were Cardinal Griffin Catholic College, Staffordshire University Academy, South Staffs Academy, Chase Terrace Technology School and Kingsmead.

Jayne Startin-Bailey of Staffordshire University Academy, Hednesford, said: "Today has helped me realise the importance of really understanding everything about sexting and how I can help my peers prevent it from happening as well as coping with it." Staffordshire University Academy school counsellor Lucy Dudson said: "It is really exciting to see how the students want to use their new-found knowledge to support young people in making informed decisions."

Gareth Cheseman, esteem network director at Acet UK, delivered part of the training and said: "Speaking at the 'Your Body Your Rules' workshop was great."

Staffordshire's Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) is supporting the initiative to create anti-sexting ambassadors. Deputy PCC Sue Arnold said: "These training sessions not only empower the students with knowledge but encourage them to share information with their peers, creating ambassadors in their school."

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Rebecca has a part on pilgrims' trail

Rebecca Mills in rehearsals for Once Upon a Mattress at the Garrick *Picture: Pamela Raith*

A LICHFIELD A-levels student is dedicating her spare time to assisting disabled pilgrims in gaining access to a holy place of worship.

Rebecca Mills, 17, along with volunteers from the Birmingham Diocese, made a week'long trip over to Lourdes.

There, they helped those less able to reach the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes, one of the most famous sites of pilgrimage in the foothills of the Pyrenees mountains.

The St Francis of Assisi student said: "We had the opportunity to take pilgrims out to the torchlight procession. This was a beautiful and moving experience."

The experience has allowed Rebecca to build up the confidence she will need in one of the main lead roles as Princess Winnifred in the Lichfield Garrick's community musical Once Upon a Mattress. "This year is my last opportunity to join in with the show before focusing on my studies, " Rebecca added. The show runs from July 30 to August 4.

Praise for 'difficult' prison in turnaround

HMP Oakwood must not have its hard work undone by the Government pushing increasing numbers of prisoners through its gates, the Prison Reform Trust has warned.

The prison, located near Featherstone, is one of the largest in the country, holding more than 2,000 prisoners and last week was praised for its 'courageous leadership' and 'outstanding management'.

But the Prison Reform Trust has warned this could be thrown into jeopardy if the number of inmates gets any higher. Trust director Peter Dawson said: "There is much to learn from this encouraging report.

"The fly in the ointment is that under pressure of a constant increase in the length of prison sentences, the Government is choosing to put hundreds more men into Oakwood than it is designed to hold, putting at risk all the good things that this report describes."

More than 60 per cent of Oakwood's prisoners are serving sentences of four years or more. The Category C prison opened in 2012, and shortly afterwards a 2013 inspection by the HM

By Megan Archer

Inspectorate of Prisons concluded that there was 'a lot to do before Oakwood is operating anywhere near effectively'.

In last week's report, however, HM Chief Inspector of Prisons Peter Clarke described Oakwood as an 'impressive institution'. He credited the 'empowerment of prisoners' through peer support as 'contributing greatly to a culture of decency and respect'.

He also praised the director of the jail John McLaughlin for his 'consistent, capable and courageous leadership' of Oakwood, which Mr Clarke described as 'not an easy prison to run'.

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Last-ditch fight to stop 'concrete jungle' homes

Essington Action Group at the meeting voice their concerns that the village could not cope with the extra homes

AN action group have sent a rallying cry against plans to build 230 homes in their village.

The Essington Action Group are fighting against Bovis Homes's scheme to build the estate on green space off Hobnock Road.

Outline plans were given the go-ahead last year, and in May a full reserved matters planning application was submitted to South Staffordshire Council. On Thursday, more than 70 residents packed out Essington Community Centre for the group's third public meeting – with fears raised that the village could not cope with the size of the development.

The plans have prompted more than 100 objections in six weeks after concerns over increasing traffic demands on roads, school places and loss of green space.

Andy Curtis, who started the Essington Action Group with his wife Sam, said they were initially told proposals were for 65 homes in 2016.

But earlier this year outline plans for 230 properties were accepted.

"It's going to be a concrete jungle – it just simply can't happen," he said.

"We have not had a fair chance to fight these plans. We don't know but the meeting this week could be our last before it gets called to the district council. Essington is a rural village, it's beautiful and we want to keep it like that. We will fight it to the death."

Of the comments made on the South Staffordshire Council website, there are two people who support the plans and 103 who are against them.

Mr Curtis says a decision on the proposals could be made at the council's planning committee in August.

Bovis Homes has been contacted for comment.

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Serving up a treat for the summer

Cannock WI

WI member Clare Brooks with some cupcakes

SUMMER is in full swing, and members are making the most of getting out and about enjoying the weather: taking tea, cakes and friendship into the gardens.

A coach trip was organised for 20 members to visit Denman College in Abingdon Oxfordshire. The Georgian house, bought by the WI. 70 years ago to assist women in 'household science', is a residential centre for learning for courses in cookery, craft and lifestyle.

Tea again in the garden was enjoyed thanks to a visit to president Helen's quaint cottage and garden in Rugeley in response to NFWI Link Together Campaign to act against loneliness. This was purely a social friendship coffee morning with, of course, cakes!

The monthly meeting was themed for NFWI Healthy Living and Wellbeing Week and members arrived in loose fitting clothes and flat shoes to take part in a tai chi experience from Mick Sheridan.

Magnificent seven new members join

President Cliff Shore with new Cannock members and long-serving Don Dyer and Alan Day

Cannock Rotary Club

AT the last meeting of the Rotary year, seven new members were welcomed to the Cannock Club by president Cliff Shore who had transferred their membership from Penkridge.

Cliff advised the meeting that for a number of reasons the Penkridge Club considered the timing was right to hand back their Rotary Charter. However as most of the members wished to remain as Rotarians he was delighted to welcome them to Cannock.

He also gave an undertaking to continue to support charities and good causes in both the Cannock and Penkridge areas. Cliff went on to outline the many achievements of the club throughout the past year including raising more than £10,000. In addition, at the meeting, four long-serving members were rewarded.

Collectively they have served the club and local community of Cannock Chase for some 140 years. Theses are past presidents Alan Day and Tony Hulbert who joined Rotary in 1983 and have served 35 years; Jacko Page, the club's sports officer, who was awarded a certificate in recognition of his 25 years service, and the oldest member Don Dyer, who was recognised for 45 years' service.

Choir tunes up for concert

Hammerwich WI

THE ladies of Hammerwich WI have been very busy.

The 'Baby Bear' project has been going strong and a number of baby clothes have been sent, via a link, to a hospital in Durban where they are given to poor abused mothers.

The club's 98th birthday was celebrated with a dinner at Druids Heath Golf Club.

The WI choir, the Ta Rowdles performed on July 8 at Birmingham Symphony Hall, in a concert called Community Spirit with other West Midlands choirs.

On Saturday, the choir holds its own concert at St Matthews Social Club, Burntwood at 7.30pm. Tickets are £5.

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Victims urged to contact service

VICTIMS of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) are being encouraged to gain help from a new service.

Initially delivered in three pilot locations in Staffordshire – Stoke on Trent North, East Staffordshire and Stafford – two project workers from the National FGM Centre will provide support to experts, local authorities and organisations already active in the matter.

The aim is to build a 'specialist, joined up service' to focus on safeguarding girls and preventing further cases. Target audiences include children at risk of FGM and their families; victims of FGM; and communities including those where a high proportion of the population originate or have links with countries where FGM is practiced.

Staffordshire's Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner Sue Arnold said: "FGM is an abhorrent crime."

Bonus for young supporters as Wolves set new ticket prices

WOLVES have announced their matchday prices for the new season – and are offering hundreds of free tickets to young fans.

And the Graham Hughes Stand will offer adult tickets cheaper than last season's Championship prices.

However, fans in the Billy Wright Upper face a £10 rise for big matches.

The club has secured 5,000 Premier League match tickets, spread out across the season, which will be free to juniors. At each game 260 free tickets will be available to Young Wolves and Wolf Pack members on a first come first served basis.

Fans in the South Bank and North Bank face a rise from £25 to £30 per match for Category A games against Arsenal, Chelsea, Liverpool, Man City, Manchester United and Spurs. Category B prices will go up from £25 to £27.

The biggest rise is in the Billy Wright Upper, where Category A games rise from £30 to £40 (£35 for Cat B). Fans in the Steve Bull stand will pay £35 (Cat A) and £30 (Cat B) – an increase of £5 per game.

An adult ticket in the Graham Hughes Stand (Southwest corner) is £25 (Cat A) and £22 (Cat B), with under-12s paying just £5.

Managing director Laurie Dalrymple said: "We have analysed every element very carefully before coming to a decision on match-to-match ticket prices."

Publisher goes live with new system

CHRONICLE publisher Midlands News Association (MNA) is the first customer to go live with Knowledge Prospect, a new system from publishing software developer PCS. A successor to the advertising system ABS, Knowledge Prospect is an advertising sales and customer management platform developed in-house by the PCS team.

Graeme Clifford, print MD at MNA, said: "We found there was nothing suitable on the market to handle our business needs. After speaking to sister company PCS, we decided to take a partnership approach in developing Knowledge Prospect so it not only meets our requirements now and in the future, but also those of other publishers."

Phil Walker, MD at PCS, said: "We have spent a lot of time making sure that Knowledge Prospect does what our existing and potential customers want it to do."

Pub's link with famous composer

Deputy mayoress Pat Peters, left, deputy mayor Peter Hitchman, Civic Society chair John Thompson, The Hedgehog's general manager Dan Emery, Swedish Clementi Society chair Bengt Hultman and Vintage Inns area manager Greg Yates

A BLUE plaque in honour of 18th Century composer Muzio Clementi has been unveiled at his former home – The Hedgehog pub in Lichfield.

Some 150 guests gathered at the pub for the official unveiling and celebrate Clementi's link to the city.

The plaque was unveiled by Bengt Hultman, chairman of the Swedish Clementi Society, who travelled from Sweden for the event after being invited by the Lichfield Civic Society. The Hedgehog was known as Lyncroft House when it was built in the late 18th Century.

Born in Rome in 1752, Clementi was a celebrated composer, musician and conductor. He spent much of his life in England and moved to Lyncroft House in 1830. The installation of the blue plaque at the Hedgehog was proposed by the Lichfield Civic Society.

Frank Horsfall, a member of the society, said: "We're thrilled to be able to celebrate Clementi's association with Lichfield with the installation of a plaque at his former home. It's a befitting honour for such a distinguished former Lichfield resident."

Alex, 30, is chosen for prestigious scholarship

A STUDENT from Burntwood has beaten off tough competition to be awarded a prestigious national scholarship.

Alex Blower is one of seven students nationally to have been selected from more than 200 applicants for the Cumberland Lodge Scholarship.

Alex Blower

The scholarship is a two-year programme for doctoral students studying at UK universities, designed to fit around their studies. It enables students from any discipline to develop skills in communication and public engagement.

The 30-year-old will receive mentoring, networking opportunities, training in communication and public engagement skills and a personal development grant of up to £300.

Alex, who is studying for a PhD in Education at the University of Wolverhampton, said: "I feel very privileged to have been selected for the scholarship.

"Cumberland Lodge is a fantastic charity."

Ex-bishop is found guilty of sex offences against women

A FORMER bishop who groped two women has been convicted of sexually assaulting his victims.

Retired churchman Michael Ward abused his position and attacked the unsuspecting women while he was working, a jury was told.

The married man denied the offences but on Thursday jurors convicted him of three sexual assaults.

Ward, who was acquitted of a further count of sexual assault, was told he will be sentenced at Wolverhampton Crown Court on August 3.

The sex offender is a former serving bishop of The Old Catholic Church, which has its UK headquarters in Rugeley. During the three-day trial, jurors heard how the 'jolly Friar Tuck'-style bishop assaulted his first victim two years ago.

Mr Andrew Wallace, prosecuting, said: "He may think of himself as a jovial Friar Tuck, giving friendly hugs and always joking, but the reality is different.

Suggested

"He is someone who likes to take advantage of his position to touch females inappropriately."

The former churchman squeezed one victim's backside during a gathering to bless a room in her mother's house.

Miss Sharon Bailey, defending, had argued that Ward nudged the woman's backside and suggested that the victim may have overreacted. But the victim retorted: "He is a bishop, a man in authority.

"He had no right putting his hands on my body."

The sex offender was also convicted of sexually assaulting a second woman in her London home last autumn.

He had been helping to arrange a funeral for the victim's late grandmother when he 'fiddled' with her bra and undid it as he cuddled her.

Ward, of Edmonton, London, protested his innocence when he gave evidence during his trial.

Jurors heard how the former bishop claimed he tried to be 'lighthearted' while talking to people about funeral services.

Man, 29, charged after collision

A MAN will appear in court next week charged with failing to give a breath test after a crash in Cannock.

Aaron Prescod, aged 29, of Kingsway, Cannock, was arrested at 1.30am on Thursday and later charged. It followed a collision in Moss Road, Cannock, at 11.40pm on Wednesday.

He was granted unconditional bail and is due to appear before Cannock magistrates on July 27.

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Thug jailed for attack on his former partner

A THUG who attacked his former partner after tracing her to the women's refuge where she had fled has been jailed for six years.

Ashley Till lay in wait outside and pounced as she left the building, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told. The horrified victim desperately tried to retrace her steps when she saw him running towards her, said Mr Edward Soulsby, prosecuting.

But Till, from Providence Lane, Leamore, in Walsall, grabbed hold of her before she could reach safety, punching her face and head eight times while holding a metal object during the incident on January 4.

The defendant, who had been drinking, admitted wounding the victim but denied having wanted to cause her grievous bodily harm – a claim dismissed by the jury, who found him guilty of the more serious charge.

Unpleasant

Till had been jailed for 16 months after attacking another former partner in November 2012, the court was told.

Mr Stephen Cadwaladr, defending, said: "This was extremely unpleasant domestic violence. Now, when sober in the cold light of day, he is utterly ashamed.

"He never denied responsibility for the assault and the woman's injuries."

Till was sent to prison by Judge Nicholas Webb, who told him: "You are violent and manipulative and wanted to renew your relationship on your terms.

"You wanted to cause her painful, lasting injury but although she was left with some marks it could have been much worse.

"You were convicted of wounding with intent but, in this case, one must sit back and have regard to what actually happened since the injury was less serious than is often the case in such matters." Till was also made the subject of a restraining order.

£1k cheque for guide dogs

Carol Trigg and her husband Terry receive the cheque from Maple Hayes pupils Hannah McCormack from Coventry and Cleeve Poxon from Cannock

PUPILS at a Lichfield school met Flora the guide dog when they presented a £1,100 cheque to the charity that trained and supports her.

During an assembly at Maple Hayes Dyslexia School, youngsters learned about the benefits a guide dog can bring from her owner, Carol Trigg from Burntwood.

Mrs Trigg lost her sight less than a decade ago and spoke about how Flora had changed her life. "This is a phenomenal amount for a small school to raise and we are very grateful.

"Guide Dogs the charity meets the full cost of a dog, its training and also all of its food and veterinary fees throughout its working life, so donations like this are really important to keep dogs with their owners and to train new ones."

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'Eating all the colours' workshops

CANALSIDE Farm will be holding a series of summer workshops during the six weeks holiday.

The workshops, titled 'Eat the Colours of the Rainbow', are aimed mainly at primary school children.

The objective is to help them understand where their food comes from and the benefits of eating a variety of different coloured fruit and vegetables.

Tickets for the workshops, on Wednesday, July 25, Thursday, August 9 and Monday, August 13 from 10am, are £6 per child and must be pre-booked by 01889 881747 or by emailing anna@canalsidefarm.co.uk

Canalside Farm located in Great Haywood, just off the A51.

Crackdown over speeding drivers

MOTORISTS have been driving dangerously at a Staffordshire beauty spot.

Police have received a number of reports of inconsiderate drivers around Blithfield Reservoir.

Officers are urging people to drive safely at the landmark, which is a popular visiting spot during the summer months.

Pc Rich Lymer said: "We will be in the area enforcing road traffic law.

"Please drive safely and enjoy the weather and views."

Amazon urging pupils to aim for a bright future

BY TOM OAKLEY

AMAZON is encouraging pupils to embrace their future careers by donating to a local school.

The company is urging youngsters to follow career in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM).

And the Amazon Rugeley team made a special visit to The Hart School in the town to donate £1,000, which will be used to fund new science equipment.

Speaking about the donation, Amazon's Rugeley general manager, Nathan Fetherston, said: "We are delighted to continue supporting schools across the UK. At Amazon, we know first-hand how important it is to encourage young people to be involved in STEM.

"Such skills open up a new world of future career possibilities, including many at Amazon where our engineers, IT specialists and other team members use the latest technology to provide innovative customer solutions."

Chris Keen, principal of The Hart School, said: "As technology continues to advance and play a critical role in today's society, we must ensure our students have the STEM skill set to succeed in the careers of tomorrow.

"We'd like to say a huge thank you to the Amazon team for helping to better prepare our students for a bright future."

The Hart School welcomed the donation as part of the company's Amazon In The Community programme.

The Hart School students with Donna West and Faraidoon Ramazan from Amazon

JCB wins 'valuable' £21m deal in Europe

JCB is celebrating its biggest single order from major European plant hire firm Boels as it invests in a brand new machine fleet worth almost £21 million.

Netherlands-based Boels has signed a deal for more than 340 JCB machines – including Loadalls, midi and micro excavators – which will join Boels Rental fleets at depots across Europe including Belgium, Netherlands, Germany, Poland, Slovakia, Austria and Italy.

The deal strengthens JCB's long-term relationship with Boels Rental which has bought more than 1,600 JCB machines in recent years.

The machines involved in the deal are made at JCB's plants across Staffordshire but all the cab units are made at Rugeley, where the company employs 400 people.

JCB's group managing director for global key accounts, Yvette Henshall-Bell, said: "We are delighted to secure this major order from one of Europe's leading plant and tool hire companies. We have worked closely with Boels for many years and it's testament to the quality of our range of Loadalls and excavators as well as the world-class service back-up that we've secured this valuable business."

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Departing Sunday 11 Nov

To mark 100 years since the end of the First World War, an astonishing art installation will be created in London's Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. 72,396 shrouded figures will be laid out, each representing a British serviceman killed at the Somme who has no known grave.

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- Les Misérables
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- Matilda ★★★★★ - *The Guardian*
- Motown the Musical
- School of Rock ★★★★★ - *Daily Mail*
- The King and I — WINNER OF 4 TONY AWARDS!
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Morphine-dealer wife loses jail term appeal

Eric pops up at French class

Mick Broomhall, winner of the French wine challenge, celebrating with Derek Taylor – and a cut-out of Eric Cantona

FRENCH wines and cheeses – and a cardboard cut-out of the gallic nation's most famous footballer, Eric Cantona – were top attractions at a new language course.

The French evening at Caffe del Nino in Cannock included a wine challenge and cheese samplings as part of the French conversation class. Jane Handley, who runs JLH Languages, said: "It was a great atmosphere and everyone got into the spirit of the evening. We also raised money for the Alzheimer's Society by raffling off a French hamper."

More than 20 people registered their interest in the new French course starting in September.

A PHARMACY dispenser who supplied morphine tablets to a neighbour – who later died – deserved her 'severe' jail term, top judges have ruled.

Tina Marie Astbury, aged 45, of Bideford Way, Cannock, was locked up for five years after being convicted at Stafford Crown Court on February 8 of supplying a Class A drug, Mrs Justice May told London's Appeal Court last week. Astbury was a pharmacy dispenser at Boots but not a qualified pharmacist, the judge said.

Her husband was lawfully prescribed Zomorph, a form of morphine sulphate. In August 2016, Astbury was witnessed handing Jamie Farr some tablets over a garden fence. It later transpired these were the drugs prescribed to her husband.

After that 'sample' had been handed over, a 'further exchange' took place.

Taken

Mr Farr later took some of the 200 Zomorph tablets that had been supplied by Astbury, at a price of £1 each. The next morning he was found dead in his bed, the judge said. He was 21, effectively bedbound, fragile and a 'chronic drug user'.

Astbury said Mr Farr must have let himself into the house and taken the tablets.

Toxicology reports showed Mr Farr had taken a 'complex cocktail of drugs'.

The judge who jailed Astbury said he was not sentencing her as if it was a case of manslaughter.

But her crime was made worse by the large number of tablets supplied and the 'high concentration' of morphine in them.

Astbury, who had no previous convictions and cared for her husband, had positive character references.

Her lawyers argued her jail term was far too harsh and should be reduced.

But Mrs Justice May said the Crown Court judge heard all the evidence and was 'best placed' to assess Astbury's crime.

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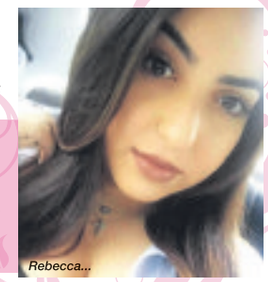
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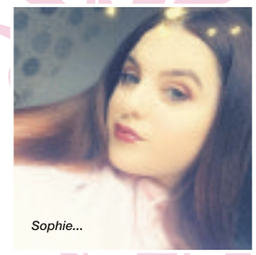
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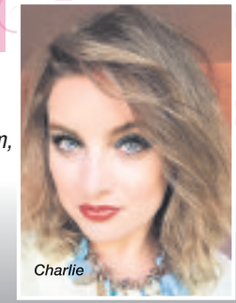
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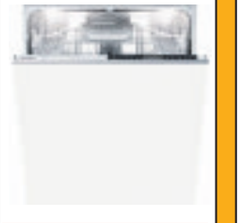
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Have Faith! It's the First Lady of R'n'B

American singer Faith Evans will return to the UK to headline a major tour. The Grammy-winning star has been in the public eye for more than 25 years and has enjoyed a successful career as a singer and actress.

She'll play songs from her hit 2017 album The King & I, recorded with her late husband, The Notorious B.I.G., when she takes to the stage at Birmingham's O2 Institute on Saturday.

The record was released to mark the 20th Anniversary of the passing of the Notorious B.I.G.

The death of her husband has left a void. "There is still no closure for us, but we just got tired of fighting what seemed to be a never-ending battle. It's not any easier for us today 20 years later than it was for us at seven or eight years.

"The funny thing is I didn't plan for our album to drop last year, it was supposed to drop the year before. But to me it's the little things that let me know that Big approves the album because there were lots of little ways that I felt he was a part of the process."

Faith is already working on a biopic based on her 2009 memoir, Keep the Faith, which chronicles her life and career, including her marriage to Biggie and his much-publicized infidelity.

Despite the drama that transpired between Faith, Lil' Kim and other women involved with Biggie in the autobiography, the songstress makes it clear it won't be heavily played onscreen.

"I'm the executive producer on it, and I'm working closely with the screenwriters. It's definitely not going to be something other than what I would want to see. I like to be very tactful – but honest."

Faith says The King and I was a cathartic project.

"The title actually was divine inspiration. I didn't have a list of like, any thoughts of what the album title was going to be, but funny enough that's the first thing that just dropped in my lap before I recorded one song."

Still missing you – Faith still thinks of ex-hubbie, Notorious B.I.G

COMFORTABLE

She was glad to make peace with Lil' Kim on there.

"Well I don't know . . . because like you said, I haven't had those feelings in a while. I can't speak for her whenever she felt like, "OK, it's time to kind of let it go," but thankfully she's in a different place. I really don't know when. I've seen her several times in passing throughout the years, but then when we were rehearsing for the Bad Boy Tour was probably the first time I actually had a full conversation with her since back when we actually hung out.

"You know, back in the day. That was – I won't say different because it's not like I don't know who Kim is – but it was different just to feel comfortable. I felt like she understood where I was coming from; it was a feeling. She actually was receptive and as soon as I asked her about being on the album, she's like, "Of course!" So I don't think that was the defining moment of a hatchet being buried or anything. In previous times, it was never like she didn't say hello back if I said hi. I always said hi if I saw her, but [the Bad Boy Tour] was certainly a forum where we got to see each other a little more often. Doing shows every day, I would stop in her dressing room and play with her baby and stuff like that. The tour certainly was a catalyst for the recovery of our relationship, I would say."

Faith thinks about her whirlwind relationship with Biggie on a daily basis. Her memories are ever-present and she reflects constantly on the impact he had on her life.

"I can't say I think about it like, 'What if we didn't get married?' but I can't say that I've never reflected on it like, 'Yeah, we did move really fast'. We're doing a documentary with A&E Films about Big, and I just recently saw the rough cut and there were some clips of interview pieces of him that I had never heard. He was like, 'You know, maybe she won't admit it but I'll admit it. We were moving too fast and everything, but we was in love!' So obviously what he was saying was probably in response to someone asking him about how fast, but we fell in love! We did, and knowing that things would definitely not be the same in so many ways, I'm glad that I was already prepared to kind of look at the bigger picture in many ways with things."

Faith wasn't actually a huge fan of Biggie's before they got married.

"I wasn't familiar with his music prior to when we met. He probably had Party & Bull-t and maybe the Mary song that he was on Real Love, but I didn't really know who he was. I was a church girl. It's not that I didn't listen to secular music, but I wasn't the most hip-hop savvy. But Puff had a Father's Day party which was the first night he ended up going home with me and we made love and all that. But when I saw him on stage, I was just blown away. I'm just in the audience like, 'Oh, he's performing?' because he'd just kept asking me was I coming to this party and I saw him on stage. I didn't know any of the songs either, but I just was looking at him and just how he had the crowd and how he didn't have to do that much because he just had a certain confidence and swagger. I was like, 'wow'. Then after the show, everybody was just clamoring around him and they was like, 'Where you going?' and he was like, 'I'm going with her'. I was like, 'Oh, OK! Come on, daddy!'"

I was a church girl. It's not that I didn't listen to secular music, but I wasn't hip-hop savvy

Andy Richardson

● For more entertainment news and reviews see The Ticket in your Express & Star every Friday.

Ocean Colour Scene

OCS and Kaiser Chiefs have days at the races

Two of the nation's favourite rock bands will be bringing the long hot summer to a rousing finale at Wolverhampton Racecourse on August 31 and September 1– and both events follow a day at the races.

Britpop outfit Ocean Colour Scene, from Birmingham, will perform at the racecourse on the Friday. The group had five top 10 albums including a number one in 1997, Marchin' Already. Hit singles include The Day We Caught The Train and The Riverboat Song. At one stage, they were Britain's second biggest-selling band, beaten only by their mates, Oasis, and 1996 triple platinum album Moseley Shoals remains the go-to record for fans of Britpop.

Singer Simon Fowler went from being a newspaper reporter to fronting the biggest thing since Oasis, an overnight success after seven years. Midlands gigs always have a special resonance for OCS and they'll make everyone a winner after this day at the races.

The following evening Leeds rockers The Kaiser Chiefs, featuring hyperactive frontman Ricky Wilson, will mark the highlight of the Ladies Day meeting at the Dunstall Park track. The Brit Award-winning quartet are best known for hit songs such as Ruby, I Predict A Riot, Everyday I Love You Less and Less, and Ricky made a lot of new fans during his spell as a judge on the BBC TV version of The Voice.

For more information see www.wolverhampton-racecourse.co.uk website.

Band didn't come home too soon

THEIR break – all 13 years of it – lasted longer than the lifespan of most rock bands.

And yet when Scottish rockers Del Amitri returned in 2014, their audience were still waiting.

Having formed in Glasgow in 1983 and released four top 10 albums, Del Amitri are planning a series of summer headline shows, including a night at Birmingham's Symphony Hall on Monday.

Frontman Justin Currie, pictured, is pleased that fans have stuck around to listen to such hits as Nothing Ever Happens, Kiss This Thing Goodbye and Always The Last To Know, as well as Roll to Me and Don't Come Home Too Soon.

He spent much of the band's 13-year hiatus working on solo work but was please to reform the band.

"After we reformed for a few weeks of gigs in 2014 we enjoyed the experience so much that we thought we'd do it again someday.

"An offer to do Edinburgh Castle came in, and having made such an arse of it in the nineties we thought it might be good to try and make amends. Four years felt like a decent enough period of time to stay out of people's faces. So we're just doing a week of shows, finishing at Glasgow Barrowlands Ballroom, a venue we've been desperate to get back to for 17 years."

Fans can expect the hits when Del Amitri take to the stage in Birmingham. They avoided playing new material in 2014, so as to give punters a comprehensive review of their output between 1985 and 2002.

"We feared the whole audience might sod off to the bogs as soon as we played something unfamiliar. This time we have given ourselves a little more leeway so we'll try some new things and see if we can make them fit."

Goldfrapp and more on the farm

A festival in rural Herefordshire will celebrate its 20th anniversary this weekend. Nozstock, on a working farm at Bromyard, will feature Chase and Status + Rage, Goldfrapp (Alison Goldfrapp pictured), The Selecter, We Are Scientists, The Blockheads, Dub Pistols, Honeyfeet, Electric Swing Circus, Spunge, The Lovely Eggs, plus DJ sets from Grandmaster Flash, Chali 2na and Krafty Kuts. It's on Friday to Sunday, for details see www.nozstock.com.

Y Not head to Peak District for tasty festival

The summer of festivals continues on Thursday (July 26) when The Libertines, Catfish and the Bottlemen, Jamiroquai, Manic Street Preachers, Kaiser Chiefs and The Wombats line up at Y Not? Festival.

The event runs until July 29 at Pikehall, Derbyshire, and also features Seasick Steve, The Levellers. Black Rebel Motorcycle Club, Razorlight, Circa Waves and The Amazons. There will also be sets from Fat White Family, Buzzcocks, The Sherlocks, Tom Grennan, Peace, Moose Blood and Reverend and the Makers. Also on the bill are Shame, Fickle Friends, Marika Hackman, Mallory Knox, Lucy Spraggan, Tom Walker, Pale Waves, Coasts, Blaenavon, Lady Leshurr, Ibibio Sound Machine, Nadia Rose, Spector and Superfood. The event offers great music and food in the beautiful Peak District. See ynotfestival.com for details.

Celebrating 15 years

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Grayshells Travel would like to thank all their customers both old and new for the support and loyalty over the years.

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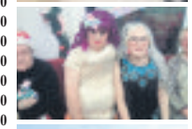
We still have some places available on these holidays

Sunday 14th October to Friday 19th October
THE KILBIRNIE HOTEL,
Newquay, Cornwall
Single supp £5.00 per night 6 day
£320.00 per person

Monday 26th November to Friday 30th November
THE OSBOURNE HOTEL
Ilfracombe
(5day) Turkey & Tinsel
£230.00 per person

Sunday 9th December to Friday 14th December
THE TOWER HOUSE BOURNEMOUTH
(6 day) Turkey & tinsel £260.00 per person



DAY TRIPS

Thursday 26th July	Scenic tour around Yorkshire dales	£17.00
Thursday 9th August	The City of Bath	£16.00
Monday 27th August	Southport	£16.00
Tuesday 11th September	Melton Mowbray & the city Leicester	£16.00
Monday 24th September	Blackpool Illuminations	£16.00
Wednesday 1st October	Bridgnorth and the Down Inn for a meal	£25.00
Wednesday 24th October	Salford quays *A chance to explore the lowry centre/imperial war museum*	£16.00
Friday 9th November	Weston super mare Illuminated Carnival	£19.00
Monday 19th November	Mason Mills & Bakewell market	£16.00
Wednesday 5th December	Cheltenham Christmas Market	£16.00
Tuesday 18th December	Chester Christmas shopping	£16.00

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SATURDAY'S TV JULY 21

CHOICE

Katie Derham

Proms Extra (BBC2, 6.50pm)

New series. Katie Derham presents the weekly magazine show on which she joined by leading stars of the classical world for conversation about all that the Proms season has to offer. In the spotlight for the first 2018 edition are Five Telegrams from the First Night of the Proms, the Young Musicians Prom and multi-instrumentalist Jacob Collier, while David Owen Norris returns with Chord of the Week.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Nadiya's Family Favourites. (R) **12.00** Athletics: Monaco Diamond League Highlights. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Athletics: Anniversary Games. Gabby Logan presents coverage from London Stadium. **4.00** Athletics: World Cup. **5.05** Wedding Day Winners.

6.05 BBC News.

6.15 Regional Programme.

6.20 Film: Wreck-It Ralph. (2012) A video game villain grows tired of always being the bad guy, and ventures into other games in search of the chance to be a hero, unwittingly causing chaos in the process. When a deadly threat to the entire arcade appears, it falls to him to set things right. Animated adventure, with the voices of John C Reilly, Sarah Silverman and Jane Lynch.

7.55 Pointless Celebrities. Richard Madeley and his daughter Chloe, JLS star JB and his wife Chloe, Fern Britton and her daughter Grace Jones, and B*Witched twins Keavy and Edele Lynch take part in a families-themed edition of the unorthodox quiz show. (R)

8.40 Casualty. Bea tries to give Alicia the help she needs following the attack, while Eddie tries to rebuild their relationship – only to be told they are purely professional colleagues. Jacob lies to Sam and tells her that Blake knows about their relationship. Elsewhere, after overhearing Sam express her doubts that she will last another shift, Ruby attempts to build bridges with her colleagues and patients. A father and son are brought in with injuries they refuse to explain, raising suspicions of abuse – but it is not clear who is the abuser and who the victim.

9.30 Mrs Brown's Boys. Agnes looks after a robotic baby that has been given to Dermot and Maria to help them prepare for their new arrival, and Cathy develops a crush on her psychology lecturer. (R)

10.00 BBC News; Weather.; National Lottery Update.

10.20 Film: Pretty Woman. (1990) A millionaire businessman hires a prostitute for a week, and falls in love with her despite their many differences. Romantic comedy, starring Julia Roberts.

12.15 Weather for the Week Ahead.

12.20 BBC News.

BBC2

6.35 Marrying Mum and Dad. **7.00** Officially Amazing Goes Bunkers. **7.30** The Dengineers. (R) **8.00** Naomi's Nightmares of Nature. (R) **8.30** Deadly Dinosaurs with Steve Backshall. (R) **9.00** David Attenborough's Natural Curiosities. (R) **9.25** Animal Odd Couples. (R) **10.25** Coast. (R) **11.00** Second Chance Summer: Tuscany. (R) **12.00** Simply Nigella. (R) **12.30** Kew on a Plate. (R) **1.30** Garden Rescue. (R) **2.15** Wanted Down Under. (R) **3.00** Money for Nothing. (R) **4.00** Ben & James Versus the Arabian Desert. (R) **5.00** Flog It! (R) **5.50** Supercharged Otters: Natural World. (R)

6.50 Proms Extra. New series. Katie Derham presents the weekly magazine show on which she joined by leading stars of the classical world for conversation about all that the Proms season has to offer.

7.30 Dad's Army. Captain Mainwaring is alarmed to discover the extent of butcher Corporal Jones's cash-flow crisis and takes drastic measures to help him. Comedy from 1975, starring Clive Dunn. (R)

8.00 Golf: The Open Championship Highlights. Eilidh Barbour presents action from the third day of the prestigious event at Carnoustie Golf Links in Angus, Scotland, as the players aimed to move a step closer to glory. In the third round at Royal Birkdale last year, eventual champion Jordan Spieth strengthened his grip at the top of the leaderboard by shooting 65 to move three shots clear of his American compatriot Matt Kuchar. However, the day belonged to South African Branden Grace after he became the first man in history to card a 62 in a major championship. Grace holed eight birdies in a bogey-free third round to set the record. With commentary from Peter Alliss, Ken Brown, Andrew Cotter and Maureen Madill.

10.00 QI XL. Bill Bailey, Phill Jupitus and Claudia Winkleman join Alan Davies and host Sandi Toksvig for an extended edition of the unconventional quiz. (R)

10.45 Touretteshero: Me, My Mouth and I.

11.45 Film: Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom. (2013)

2.05 Picnic at Hanging Rock. (R) **3.00** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Sooty. **6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.20** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.35** Dino Dana. (R) **6.50** Mission Employable. (R) **6.55** The Oddbods Show. (R) **7.05** NinjaGo: Possession. (R) **7.30** The Haunted Hathaways. (R) **7.55** Drop Dead Weird. **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Zoe Ball on Saturday. **9.25** Who's Doing the Dishes? (R) **10.25** The Voice Kids. (R) **11.55** ITV News; Weather. **12.05** Midsomer Murders. (R) **2.00** Catchphrase. (R) **2.45** Tenable. (R) **3.45** Tipping Point. (R) **4.45** The Chase. (R) **5.45** ITV News; Weather.

6.05 Regional Programme; Weather.

6.15 Film: Minions. (2015) Premiere. A race of strange, babbling yellow creatures has served the cause of evil throughout the history of the world. In the 1960s, three of these eternal henchmen get a job working for a criminal genius who is hatching a plot against the British crown – but while carrying out her orders, they uncover a threat to their whole species. Animated comedy, with the voices of Sandra Bullock, Pierre Coffin, Jon Hamm and Michael Keaton.

8.00 The Voice Kids Live Final. After a week of competition, Emma Willis presents the talent contest's grand final, giving youngsters between the ages of seven and 14 the chance to achieve stardom. The Voice UK's Will.i.am, McFly's Danny Jones and pop star Pixie Lott occupy the famous spinning red chairs, but the decisions have now been taken out of the coaches' hands and now rest solely with the voting public. Last in the series.

9.35 ITV News; Weather.

9.55 Film: The Bourne Ultimatum. (2007) Amnesiac rogue assassin Jason Bourne's long-buried memories are reawakened by a British journalist researching the secret organisation that was responsible for transforming him into a killing machine. Meanwhile, a ruthless CIA director becomes convinced Bourne is still a security risk, and plans to dispose of him once and for all. Third instalment of the spy thriller series, directed by Paul Greengrass and starring Matt Damon.

11.55 You've Been Framed! Harry Hill narrates a comical selection of viewers' videos. (R)

12.20 Jackpot247. **3.00** Mr Selfridge. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.10 Cycling: Velothon Wales. **6.35** Motor Sport: Chateau Impney Hill Climb. **7.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.25** Frasier. (R) **8.55** Frasier. (R) **9.25** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **9.55** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.20** The Simpsons. (R) **10.50** The Simpsons. (R) **11.20** Come Dine with Me. (R) **12.20** Four in a Bed. (R) **12.50** Four in a Bed. (R) **1.20** Four in a Bed. (R) **1.50** Four in a Bed. (R) **2.25** Four in a Bed. (R) **2.55** A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun. (R) **3.55** Kirstie and Phil's Love It or List It. (R) **5.00** Channel 4 News. **5.30** Formula 1 German Grand Prix Qualifying Highlights.

7.05 Inside Bentley: A Great British Motor Car. Documentary going behind the scenes at the car company's plant in northwest England, as work commences on a new range of 4x4s. This is the first time cameras have had access to the plant, which is currently undergoing millions in new investment. The programme features the local people and master craftsmen working on the factory floor as well as visiting the world's most exclusive car showroom in Mayfair and the secretive department where customers can obtain the latest upgrades to their bespoke vehicle. (R)

8.00 Great Canal Journeys: India. Part two of two. Timothy West and Prunella Scales leave India's canals behind to explore the Brahmaputra river, a rarely navigated stretch of water with a remarkable history. They follow an old tea trading route, meet a community of monks and take a ride on an elephant. (R)

9.00 Film: Kingsman: The Secret Service. (2015) A streetwise teenager is taken under the wing of his dead father's old colleague, an agent working for a super-secret spy organisation. Will the youngster prove to be a chip off the old block by proving useful during a battle against a twisted, hi-tech genius? Action comedy based on a comic book, starring Colin Firth, Taron Egerton and Samuel L Jackson.

11.35 Film: The Visit. (2015) Premiere. Horror, with Olivia DeJonge.

1.10 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. (R) **2.05** The Big Narstie Show. (R) **3.00** Hollyoaks. (R) **5.10** My Kitchen Rules. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.10** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **10.45** Dogs Make You Laugh Out Loud 3. (R) **11.10** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.10** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.10** Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun. (R) **2.10** Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun. (R) **3.10** Bad Tenants, Rogue Landlords. (R) **4.10** Bad Tenants, Rogue Landlords. (R) **5.10** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away! (R)

6.05 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away Special. In an episode full of surprises, agents Paul and Steve make a dangerous discovery leading to them calling the police. Elsewhere, Stewart and Elmore face a moral dilemma, and Paul and Steve hear a story that stops them in their tracks. (R)

7.00 Blind Date. Paul O'Grady hosts as feisty fashion student Mia chooses between blogger Howie, Geordie lad Declan and musician Elijah. Customer service adviser Stephen from Blackpool then makes his decision, choosing from bodybuilder Terri, teacher Julia and Marilyn Monroe impersonator Suzie. Plus, model Plum and dancer Jose return to the studio, reporting on their dates and revealing how they got on.

8.00 Before They Were Stars. A trek back through the TV archive to uncover embarrassing early brushes with fame endured by some of today's biggest stars. Among those skewered are pop stars, rock legends, silver-screen icons, celebrated comedians and sporting heroes.

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 Victoria Wood: Her Life As Seen on TV. Profile of the writer and comedian, charting her career from her initial breakthrough singing comedy songs on 1970s talent show New Faces, through to her subsequent TV series and stand-up shows. Featuring clips of some of the funniest performances of her 40-year career and contributions from friends, fans and co-stars, including Richard E Grant, Duncan Preston, Kate Robbins and Barry Cryer. (R)

10.00 Victoria Wood: Live 1997. The comedian performs stand-up and sketches, recorded during Victoria's 1997 tour and acclaimed as one of the very best stand-up shows of the decade. (R)

12.00 SuperCasino. **3.10** GPs: Behind Closed Doors. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four

7.00 Mountain: Life at the Extreme **8.00** Wonders of the Monsoon **9.00** Hidden **10.00** Top of the Pops: 1986 **11.00** The Undiscovered Peter Cook **12.00** Smashing Hits! The 80's Pop Map of Britain & Ireland **1.00** Classic Soul at the BBC **2.00** Mountain: Life at the Extreme **3.00** Wonders of the Monsoon **4.00** Close

ITV2

12.50 Catchphrase **1.30** You've Been Framed! Gold **2.00 Film:** You've Got Mail (1998) **3.10** FYI Daily **3.15 Film:** You've Got Mail (1998) **4.25 Film:** St Trinian's 2: The Legend of Fritton's Gold (2009) **5.25** FYI Daily **5.30 Film:** St Trinian's 2: The Legend of Fritton's Gold (2009) **6.35 Film:** The Mummy Returns (2001) **7.35** FYI Daily **7.40 Film:** The Mummy Returns (2001) **9.00** Love Island: The Weekly Hot List **10.05** Keith Lemon: Coming in America **10.50** Family Guy **12.20** American Dad! **1.15** CelebAbility **1.55** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.45** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

1.30 ITV Racing: Live from Newbury. Francesca Cumani presents coverage from Newbury, Market Rasen and Newmarket. **4.00** Rosemary & Thyme **5.00** Midsomer Murders **9.00** Endeavour **11.00** Vera **1.00** Honest **2.00** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV4

12.00 Tour de France Live. **5.00** Storage Wars: Texas **6.00** Monster Carp **7.00** Tour de France Highlights **8.00 Film:** The Living Daylights (1987) **9.05** FYI Daily **9.10 Film:** The Living Daylights (1987) **10.45** Rugby World Cup Sevens Highlights **11.45** Better Late Than Never **12.40** Minder **1.45** The Motorbike Show **2.35** Sporting Funnies **2.45** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

E4

12.30 The Goldbergs **3.00** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **3.30** Young Sheldon **4.00** The Big Bang Theory **9.00 Film:** The Mortal Instruments: City of Bones (2013) **11.35** Gogglebox **1.40** Tattoo Fixers **2.40** Rude Tube **3.35** Gogglebox **4.25** Rude(ish) Tube **4.50** How I Met Your Mother

Film4

11.00 Napoleon Dynamite (2004) **1.00** The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie (2004) **2.45** The Indian in the Cupboard (1995) **4.35** Picture Perfect (1997) **6.40** Back to the Future Part III (1990) **9.00** Gladiator (2000) **12.00** The Mechanic (2011) **1.45** The Haunting in Connecticut (2009) **3.55** Close

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Express & Star

SUNDAY'S TV JULY 22

CHOICE

Nicola Walker

Unforgotten (ITV, 9pm)

Cassie and Sunny go in search of Hayley's family as the press begin to take an interest in the story. A detective who was involved in the original investigation offers his thoughts on why her disappearance remained unsolved, pointing out that Hayley's boyfriend was suspected of the crime but was never charged. The distance between where Hayley was last seen and where her body was found leads Cassie to form a new theory - that the killer may have travelled up from London, then returned before they could be questioned.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Regional Programme. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Garden Rescue. (R) **2.00** Money for Nothing. (R) **3.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **3.45** Lifeline. **3.55** Songs of Praise. **4.30** Animals Behaving Badly. (R) **5.30** Eat Well for Less? (R)

6.30 BBC News.

6.50 Regional Programme.

7.00 Countryfile. A special episode from Cumbria celebrates Countryfile's 30th anniversary, in which John Craven introduces a countdown of the show's 30 most memorable moments from the past three decades. Matt Baker meets a local fell walker, and Tom Heap investigates Countryfile's coverage of Foot and Mouth disease, and meets a local farmer to discover how he coped with the outbreak. Ellie Harrison meets some student wildlife film-makers, and Steve Brown meets boating enthusiasts in Ullswater engaged in a prestigious contest.

8.00 Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce and the team value decorative objects and rarities, returning to Cardiff Castle. Silver specialist Gordon Foster is fascinated by an elaborately decorated Indian flask, while John Benjamin reveals what was thought to be costume jewellery is actually the real thing. Plus, Fiona goes on the hunt for a lost 1933 penny worth a small fortune now, and Roadshow veteran Henry Sandon gets his hands on a rare piece of porcelain.

9.00 Poldark. Ross grows furious at Adderley's unwanted advances to Demelza and resorts to violence – a confrontation that results in his being formally challenged to a duel.

10.00 BBC News.

10.20 Regional Programme.

10.30 Imagine – Rose Wylie: This Rose Is Blooming. Alan Yentob meets the painter, known for her exuberant, large-scale canvases. He discovers how her memories and experiences have helped mould her into the artist she is today.

11.35 Film: A Little Chaos. (2014) Period drama, with Kate Winslet and Matthias Schoenaerts.

1.25 Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.30** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 A to Z of TV Gardening. (R) **6.45** Glorious Gardens from Above. (R) **7.30** Gardeners' World. (R) **8.30** Countryfile. (R) **9.25** The Beechgrove Garden. **9.55** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.30** The Best Dishes Ever. (R) **12.00** Hairy Bikers' Best of British. (R) **1.00** Athletics: Anniversary Games. Gabby Logan presents coverage of day two from London Stadium. **4.30** Flog It! (R) **5.30** Secrets of Silicon Valley. (R)

6.30 Mortimer & Whitehouse: Gone Fishing. (R)

7.00 Inside the Factory. Gregg Wallace explores an enormous Derbyshire coffee factory, where they produce 175,000 jars of instant coffee a day. He follows the production of freeze dried instant coffee, from the arrival of 27 tonnes of Brazilian green coffee beans right through to dispatch. Meanwhile, Cherry Healey learns about the drink's chemistry and Ruth Goodman investigates its origins, visiting the site of the UK's very first coffee house which sprang up in a London churchyard in 1652. (R)

8.00 Golf: The Open Championship Highlights. Eilidh Barbour presents action from the fourth and final day of the prestigious event at Carnoustie Golf Links in Angus, Scotland, as the third Major of the year drew to a close. Each of the last three Opens held at Carnoustie have been decided by a play-off, including Padraig Harrington's triumph in 2007 and Paul Lawrie's win on home soil in 1999. With commentary from Peter Alliss, Ken Brown, Andrew Cotter and Maureen Madill.

10.00 Shankly: Nature's Fire. Profile of football manager Bill Shankly, examining his success during two periods running Liverpool and the influence his Ayrshire roots had on his career. (R)

11.30 Idris Elba – King of Speed. Part one of two. Documentary in which the Luther star embarks on an international journey to explore the history of car racing while sampling the thrill of competition vehicles. (R)

12.30 Sign Zone: Countryfile. Sean Fletcher presents a special programme on Wales. (R) **1.25** Holby City. Sacha tries a new romance, tensions rise as Meena moves in on Nicky's turf up on Darwin, and Donna puts Zav to the test. (R) **2.25** This Is BBC Two. Preview of upcoming programmes from BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Sooty. **6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.20** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.35** Dino Dana. (R) **6.50** Mission Employable. (R) **6.55** The Oddbods Show. (R) **7.05** NinjaGo: Possession. (R) **7.30** The Haunted Hathaways. (R) **7.55** Drop Dead Weird. **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Zoe Ball on Sunday. **9.25** Who's Doing the Dishes? (R) **10.15** Midsomer Murders. (R) **12.15** ITV News; Weather. **12.25** The Voice Kids Live Final. (R) **1.55 Film:** Mamma Mia! (2008) Musical comedy, starring Meryl Streep. **4.00** Tipping Point: Lucky Stars. (R) **5.00** The Chase. (R)

6.00 Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs. Paul meets a large bull mastiff with some very particular demands, a pair of chihuahua pug crosses with a strange family dynamic and an unusual looking mongrel which is very shy. (R)

6.30 ITV News; Weather.

6.45 Regional Programme; Weather.

7.00 Vera. A mother of two is found murdered in her back garden. Vera and Aiden investigate the case, and delve into the disturbing secrets and ongoing conflicts that lurk beneath the surface of the victim's seemingly peaceful suburban community. The case takes a more complicated turn when the dead woman's estranged family make an unexpected reappearance, and while several of her neighbours may have had cause to carry out a crime of passion, her relatives may have had compelling motives of their own to kill. Guest starring Rita Tushingham. (R)

9.00 Unforgotten. Cassie and Sunny go in search of Hayley's family, while a detective who was involved in the original investigation offers his thoughts on why her disappearance remained unsolved.

10.00 ITV News; Weather.

10.20 Holiday Horrors: Caught on Camera. Another selection of clips showcasing what can go wrong on holiday, including a couple getting an unexpected visitor to their tent on a safari holiday. (R)

11.20 Goodwood Festival of Speed. Action from the Goodwood Estate as motoring enthusiasts from around the world gathered for the historic car and bike event.

12.15 Jackpot247. **3.00** Motorsport UK. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Kirstie's Handmade Treasures. (R) **6.15** The King of Queens. (R) **6.40** The King of Queens. (R) **7.05** The King of Queens. (R) **7.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.25** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** The Simpsons. (R) **1.00** The Simpsons. (R) **1.30 Film:** The Boxtrolls. (2014) Stop-motion animated fantasy, with the voice of Isaac Hempstead Wright. **3.20** Bang on Budget. **4.20** Homes by the Med. **5.20** Location, Location, Location. (R)

6.20 Channel 4 News.

6.45 Formula 1 German Grand Prix Highlights. Steve Jones and David Coulthard present action from the 11th round of the season at the Hockenheimring, as the race returned to the calendar after being absent last year. Lewis Hamilton took the honours here in 2016, and will be looking for another victory to help reduce Sebastian Vettel's lead in the standings.

9.00 The Handmaid's Tale. A frustrated Serena Joy becomes desperate, and the Commander tries to make amends. Nick pushes Eden further away, and Offred is faced with an unexpected reunion.

10.10 Artist in Residence: The Sex Clinic. New series. Artists move in to unusual locations to seek fresh inspiration, beginning with Bryony Kimmings, who talks to patients at a sexual health clinic about their lives.

11.05 Film: Stonehearst Asylum. (2014) A lunatic asylum descends into mayhem as the patients take control and try to establish their own society. Gothic horror, starring Kate Beckinsale.

1.10 The Last Leg. Adam Hills, Josh Widdicombe and Alex Brooker are joined by celebrity guests for a comic review of the significant moments of the past seven days. (R) **2.05 Film:** My Golden Days. (2015) Premiere. A French anthropologist reflects on his troubled adolescence, including a life-changing trip to Russia. Drama, starring Quentin Dolmaire and Mathieu Amalric. **4.10** Selling Houses with Amanda Lamb. The host helps three homeowners struggling to sell their property in West Sussex, including Indie, who needs to create a lounge from scratch in an old post office room. (R) **5.05** My Kitchen Rules. Helen and Liz are first to cook in the second week. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Little Princess. **6.10** Wissper. (R) **6.20** Poppy Cat. (R) **6.30** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **6.35** The Secret Life of Kittens. (R) **6.40** Seaside Antics. (R) **6.45** Olly the Little White Van. (R) **6.50** Simon. (R) **6.55** Peppa Pig. (R) **7.00** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.15** Thomas & Friends. (R) **7.30** Fireman Sam. (R) **7.45** Rusty Rivets. (R) **8.00** Paw Patrol. (R) **8.15** Pirata & Capitano. **8.30** Noddy: Toyland Detective. (R) **8.50** Floogals. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.10** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **9.30** Digby Dragon. (R) **9.45** Peppa Pig. (R) **9.55** Peppa Pig. (R) **10.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **10.35** Blind Date. (R) **11.30** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.20 Film:** The Dark Crystal. (1982) **1.20** Access. **1.25 Film:** The Dark Crystal. (1982) Concluded. **2.15 Film:** Labyrinth. (1986) **3.15** Access. **3.20 Film:** Labyrinth. (1986) Concluded. **4.15 Film:** Nanny McPhee. (2005) **5.15** Access. **5.20 Film:** Nanny McPhee. (2005) Concluded.

6.05 Wonderful World of Puppies: Hero Hounds. A litter of doberman pups learns the laws of puppy physics with an introduction to gravity, and also draw on their guard dog instincts when a photographer comes to take pictures.

7.05 Chuckle Time with the Chuckle Brothers. The comedy duo introduce this new clip-show.

7.55 5 News Weekend.

8.00 Funniest Ever Celebrity Moments. New series. Countdowns of memorable TV moments featuring famous faces. Ore Oduba presents the first selection, which focuses on celebrities making a big impression on talent shows.

9.00 Film: 21 Jump Street. (2012) Two youthful-looking cops are sent undercover as high-school students to bring down a drugs ring. Comedy inspired by the 1980s TV series, starring Jonah Hill and Channing Tatum.

10.00 5 News Update.

10.05 Film: 21 Jump Street. (2012) Concluded.

11.10 Film: The Green Hornet. (2011) Comic-book adventure, starring Seth Rogen.

12.10 Access. **12.15 Film:** The Green Hornet. (2011) Concluded. **1.25** SuperCasino. **4.00** Britain's Greatest Bridges. (R) **4.45** House Doctor. (R) **5.10** Divine Designs. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four

7.00 BBC Proms 2018 **8.45** Wild Scotland **9.00** Archaeology: A Secret History **10.00** Rich Hall's Presidential Grudge Match **11.30** Six Wives with Lucy Worsley **12.30** Henry VIII's Enforcer: The Rise and Fall of Thomas Cromwell **1.30** Forest, Field & Sky: Art Out of Nature **2.30** Archaeology: A Secret History **3.25** Close

ITV2

12.05 Take Me Out **1.35** You've Been Framed! Gold **2.35 Film:** Looney Tunes: Back in Action (2003) **3.35** FYI Daily **3.40 Film:** Looney Tunes: Back in Action (2003) **4.25 Film:** Hotel Transylvania 2 (2015) **5.25** FYI Daily **5.30 Film:** Hotel Transylvania 2 (2015) **6.10** Hotel Transylvania: Puppy! **6.15 Film:** Star Wars: Episode I – The Phantom Menace (1999) **7.20** FYI Daily **7.25 Film:** Star Wars: Episode I – The Phantom Menace (1999) **9.00** Love Island **10.00** Love Island: Aftersun **11.05** Family Guy **12.05** American Dad! **1.00** You vs Chris & Kem **2.05** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.15** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

9.00 The Halcyon **11.00** Wire in the Blood **1.00** Blue Murder **2.15** Liverpool 1 **3.10** Road to Avonlea **4.45** Murder, She Wrote **5.35** ITV3 Nightscreen

ITV4

12.00 Tour de France Live. **5.15** Football Rivalries **5.30** Storage Wars: Texas **7.00** Tour de France Highlights **8.00** River Monsters **9.00 Film:** The Chronicles of Riddick (2004) **10.00** FYI Daily **10.05 Film:** The Chronicles of Riddick (2004) **11.20** Rugby World Cup Sevens Highlights **12.20 Film:** Red Heat (1988) **1.20** FYI Daily **1.25 Film:** Red Heat (1988) **2.25** The Protectors **2.50** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

E4

11.25 The Crystal Maze **12.30** Rude(ish) Tube **12.55** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **1.55** Young Sheldon **2.25** The Big Bang Theory **6.50 Film:** Rango (2011) **9.00** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **10.00** Gogglebox **11.05** Gogglebox Australia **12.10** The Big Bang Theory **1.05** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **2.05** Gogglebox Australia **2.55** Rude Tube **3.25** Hollyoaks

Film4

11.00 The Great St Trinian's Train Robbery (1966) **1.00** Carry On Cleo (1964) **2.50** One Fine Day (1996) **5.00** Ice Age (2002) **6.45** The Imitation Game (2014) **9.00** Legend (2015) **11.35** Captive (2015) **1.40** To Kill a King (2003) **3.50** Close

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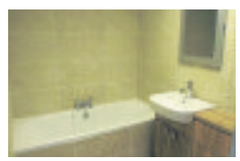

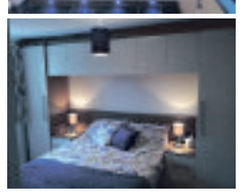

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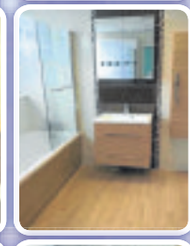
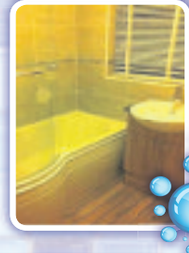

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PICK OF THE WEEK

FILM CHOICES

MONDAY

Past Malice: An Emma Fielding Mystery, Channel 5, 3.15pm
Premiere. The archaeologist is hired to consult on the acquisition of a castle-like estate that local legend states is cursed. Mystery, starring Courtney Thorne-Smith. (2018)

TUESDAY

A Wife's Nightmare, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A woman who has just recovered from a mental breakdown returns home to pick up the pieces of her life - but her plans are thrown into disarray when a teenage girl claiming to be her husband's long-lost daughter arrives on her doorstep. Drama based on a true story, starring Jennifer Beals. (2014)

WEDNESDAY

Heart of Murder, Channel 5, 3.15pm
The lucky recipient of a recent heart transplant sets out to find the identity of her donor and discovers that it was her estranged cousin, who may have been the victim of murder. Thriller, starring Makenzie Vega, Johannah Newmarch and Ben Sullivan. (2016)

Don't Be Afraid of the Dark, Channel 4, 1.25am
A girl moves into a gothic mansion with her father and his new girlfriend, and hears strange noises coming from the basement. Her curiosity leads her to unwittingly unleash a swarm of voracious tiny monsters, but her attempts to warn her family of the terrible danger they are in fall on deaf ears. Horror, with Bailee Madison. (2010)

Disturbia, Friday, BBC1, 11.40pm

THURSDAY

Garage Sale Mystery, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A garage sale enthusiast puts her eye for a bargain to the task of catching the crooks behind a series of burglaries. Crime drama, with Lori Loughlin. (2013)

FRIDAY

Disturbia, BBC1, 11.40pm
A teenager under house arrest passes the time spying on his neighbours, and begins to suspect one is a serial killer. Thriller, starring Shia LaBeouf. (2007)

The ladies are back to crack the code of a new series

As New Order sang in their 1990 World Cup anthem World in Motion, "When something's good it's never gone."

That certainly seems to be the case with The Bletchley Circle.

ITV launched the first series in 2012 with a cast led by Anna Maxwell Martin, Rachael Stirling, Sophie Rundle and Julie Graham. They played women who met during the Second World War when they worked as codebreakers at Bletchley Park, deciphering messages from the Nazis.

Seven years after the end of the conflict, they were all bored with their ordinary, domestic lives and looking for a challenge – which came in the form of several suspicious deaths that one of the gang believes are linked and are the work of a serial killer.

Maxwell Martin quit before series two, which involved the remaining members trying to clear the name of another former comrade as she awaits trial for the murder of an old flame.

That run ended in 2014 and ITV decided not to recommission the period drama for a third run, despite the fact that it helped boost the presence of women on screen by having four female leads.

Four years on, the show is back – but not the same as it was before. It's been snapped up by the US streaming service BritBox, who have produced a new version that sees two members of the original team – those played by Stirling and Graham – transported to San Francisco.

"In 2018, BritBox will up the ante with our first commission, more co-productions and more popular programming and star power from all genres appealing to new subscribers along with our very loyal existing members," said the company's president Soumya Sriraman when the show was announced, before adding: "With this new continuation, we have the chance to build on its amazing legacy and give its loyal fans an exciting new chapter."

The Bletchley Circle isn't the first show to receive a new lease of life thanks to an online firm – the same thing happened to Ripper Street when the BBC axed it, only for Amazon Prime to give it a new lease of life.

When we meet up with Jean and Millie again it's 1956. Jean uncovers evidence that suggests the killer who murdered a Bletchley girl during the war may be up to his old tricks in the city by the Bay. They set sail for America in the hope of teaming up with one of their US counterparts who was employed at the famous Presidio.

Using a scrap of wartime code, they locate the woman in question, Iris, a musician and maths genius who, along with her engineering protégé Hailey, agrees to lend a hand.

Their investigation takes them deep into the heart of the Fillmore District and closer than ever before to a killer who doesn't just take the lives of his victims, he mutilates them too.

Iris struggles to cope with the pressure – can she hold it together to make sure justice is done?

The Bletchley Circle: San Francisco, Wednesday, ITV, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

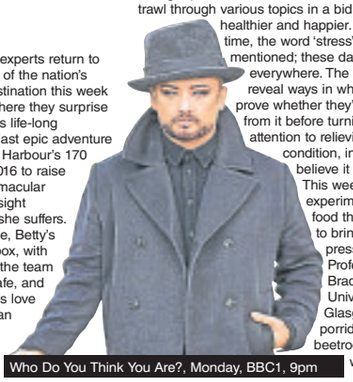
MONDAY

Who Do You Think You Are?
BBC1, 9pm
Singer Boy George knows that his maternal grandmother was found wandering the streets of Dublin as a small child and put in a children's home, and also heard that one of his great uncles was hanged in Dublin's Mountjoy jail and is somehow connected to Kevin Barry, who was commemorated in an Irish rebel song. As George uncovers the grim details of what really happened to his grandmother and his great uncle, he also delights in a new sense of his family being truly part of Irish history.

Who Is America?
Channel 4, 10pm
Some viewers may have wonder if the reason why Sacha Baron Cohen apparently moved away from the satirical shows and films that made his name is because he simply got too famous. In theory, after you've starred in an Oscar-nominated, worldwide box-office hit like Borat, even politicians who don't normally keep up with cult comedy should start to recognise you. However, it turns out that we've underestimated Baron Cohen's mastery of disguise. He's spent the past year undercover and has managed to secure meetings with figures across the US political spectrum – including Sarah Palin, who claimed in an angry Facebook post that she had been ëduped' into an interview. So, don't be surprised to see some big names being skewered in the second episode of his new series.

TUESDAY

Love Your Garden
ITV, 8pm
Alan Titchmarsh and his team of experts return to transform the backyards of some of the nation's most deserving people. Their destination this week is Fareham near Southampton where they surprise 90-year-old Betty Hicks, a fearless life-long volunteer and fundraiser. Betty's last epic adventure saw her abseil down Portsmouth Harbour's 170 metre-high Spinnaker Tower in 2016 to raise money for a condition known as macular degeneration - a gradual loss of sight prevalent in the elderly, of which she suffers. Despite her get-up-and-go attitude, Betty's garden is a green-free concrete box, with many levels and trip hazards, so the team set about transforming it into a safe, and sensory haven. Inspired by Betty's love of vivid colour, the team creates an elegant formal garden that's brimming with the brightest of shades.


Who Do You Think You Are?, Monday, BBC1, 9pm

WEDNESDAY

Live Well For Longer
Channel 4, 8pm
Presenters Kate Quilton and Tamal Ray, along with roving reporter Morland Sanders, continue their trawl through various topics in a bid to make us all healthier and happier. Once upon a time, the word 'stress' was never mentioned; these days, it's everywhere. The hosts reveal ways in which viewers can prove whether they're suffering from it before turning their attention to relieving the condition, including - believe it or not - singing. This week's big experiment looks at food that may be able to bring down blood pressure and sees Professor Adrian Brady from the University of Glasgow put porridge oats, beetroot and coconut water to the test.

THURSDAY

Eat, Shop, Save
ITV, 7.30pm
As budgets get tighter and obesity levels rise, it's clear that the task of teaching Brits how to shop for healthy food without breaking the bank is just too big for Gregg Wallace and Chris Bavin to tackle alone. So, in addition to BBC1's Eat Well for Less?, we're also getting a new series of this not-altogether-dissimilar show, which challenges families to eat better, get fitter and save money. Over the course of the current run, presenter Ranvir Singh and her team of experts – chef and nutritionist Dale Pinnock, savvy shopper Kate Hardcastle and fitness consultant Tom Pitfield – will meet a dad with an addiction to energy drinks and a single mum who is worried that her own bad habits will affect her children. But first up are the Bassett family from Country Durham, who need to find a cheaper, healthier alternative to takeaways.

FRIDAY

The Crystal Maze
Channel 4, 8pm
Richard Ayoade guides a team calling themselves the London Girls through the four zones of the Maze, tackling a range of skill, mystery, physical and mental challenges.

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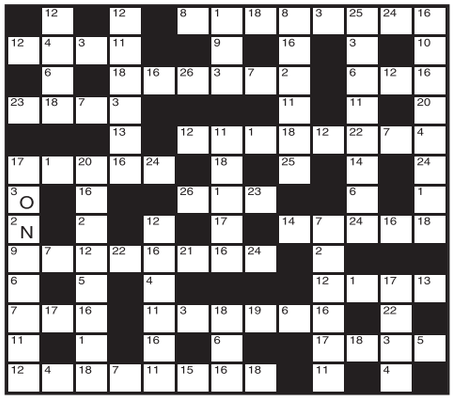
BRAIN GYM

No.489

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



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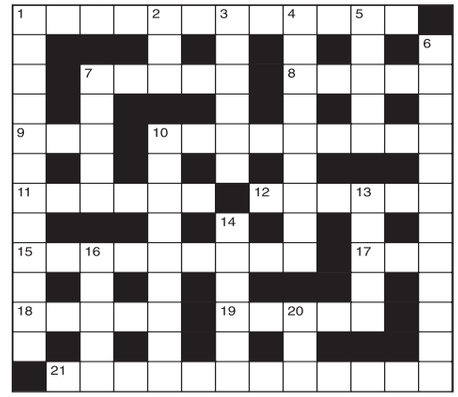
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
C	D	W	V	N	B	Y	M	I	G	J	A	Q
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Z	S	O	T	H	L	F	R	K	U	E	P	X

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues – both fit the same grid.



Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Broken-hearted because the record is played at such an advanced hour (12)
7. A tedious pest? (5)
8. Sailor may employ vituperation (5)
9. I shall shortly become unwell (3)
10. Tavern learner hires out to man in book trade (9)
11. Spiritual situation of patients? (6)
12. Why the rebellion cannot be put down? (6)
15. Tea's ready for this special occasion (6,3)
17. Tuneful travelling medium? (3)
18. In the morning everybody returned to see the animal (5)
19. Smallest egghead gets in final (5)
21. Craftsman who makes furniture from rock (5-7)

Down

1. Without even a ghost of a hope? (12)
2. A row results when it is put in (3)
3. His writing was not noted for originality (6)
4. It's a risk to have more than fifty with skill (9)
5. Contact to get money (5)
6. Great error if freezer is involved (12)
7. Feel depressed underneath (5)
10. Post Office clear-out in broken china-ware (9)
13. This paint is not suitable (5)
14. A theologian went first? That's rotten! (6)
16. Does it hurt to be intelligent? (5)
20. Top performer is one in suit (3)

Quick Clues:

Across

1. Misunderstanding (7,5)
7. Put off (5)
8. Don (3,2)
9. Undivided (3)
10. Force (9)
11. Summary (6)
12. Ripe (6)
15. Applicable (9)
17. Hostilities (3)
18. Be (5)
19. Express (5)
21. Meddling (12)

Down

1. Map-maker (12)
2. Place (3)
3. Audacious (6)
4. Hasty (9)
5. Additional (5)
6. Incontrovertible (12)
7. Clothe (5)
10. Selected group (9)
13. Let down (5)
14. Snub (6)
16. Rule (5)
20. Sailor (3)

Sudoku

		3	8		9	5		
	5			1			7	
		4		5		6		
	1			8			2	6
		2	5		1	7		
	4		6	7			9	
		5				9		
	2			9	5		4	
		1	7		6	2		

Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

5	6	7	4	9	2	3	1	8
9	2	4	1	3	8	5	7	6
8	1	3	7	5	6	2	9	4
7	9	6	8	2	4	1	5	3
3	4	8	9	1	5	6	2	7
2	5	1	6	7	3	8	4	9
6	8	2	5	4	9	7	3	1
4	7	5	3	6	1	9	8	2
1	3	9	2	8	7	4	6	5

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 4 Flighty; 8 Boxing; 9 Overact; 10 Spells; 11 Listen; 12 Aspirate; 18 Postpone; 20 Dynamo; 21 Slight; 22 Solicit; 23 Bear on; 24 Adhered. Down: 1 Abysmal; 2 Excerpt; 3 Antler; 5 Loveless; 6 Garish; 7 Ticked; 13 Apposite; 14 Forgery; 15 Letting; 16 Byword; 17 Saline; 19 Tiller.
QUICK - Across: 4 Respite; 8 Edible; 9 Skilled; 10 Repeal; 11 Nettle; 12 Intrepid; 18 Overturn; 20 Decent; 21 Handle; 22 Capital; 23 Glance; 24 Beneath. Down: 1 Refrain; 2 Dispute; 3 Please; 5 Enkindle; 6 Polite; 7 Treble; 13 Protract; 14 Pudding; 15 Integer; 16 Decade; 17 Device; 19 Really.

Quiz

1. Who was the Greek sun god?
2. Of what is Moscow's Tsar Kolokol the world's largest example?
3. Which casino game was adapted from the game hazard?
4. How many valves does a bugle have?
5. Which Jewish festival commemorates the exodus from Egypt?
6. What is the largest living lizard?
7. With which country did Germany sign the Anti-Comintern Pact in 1936?
8. In Greek mythology, who was overthrown by his son Zeus?
9. What was Susan Mayoss-Hurd the first female priest to do?
10. Which Italian word for «little book' is used to denote an opera text?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Billy Bunter; 2 Cancer; 3 Nautical mile; 4 The Pope; 5 Malcolm Fraser; 6 Netherlands; 7 Yehudi Menuhin; 8 Henry James; 9 Kenneth Branagh; 10 Kent.

Niner: FRACTIOUS

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

45654321 gives a mythical being,
9671178 gives a second mythical being,
95875 gives a third mythical being.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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Representative Finance Example

CUSTOMER DEPOSIT	47 MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF	FINANCE DEPOSIT ALLOWANCE	CASH PRICE	AMOUNT OF CREDIT	FEES
£219**	£219	£600†	£15,473.45	£14,654.45	NIL

TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	OPTIONAL FINAL PAYMENT	ANNUAL MILEAGE	DURATION OF AGREEMENT	FIXED RATE OF INTEREST	REPRESENTATIVE APR (FIXED)
£17,067	£5,955	5,000*	48 MONTHS	3.83%	3.9%

BRAND NEW VAUXHALL GRANDLAND X 1.2T SE 5DR

Representative Finance Example

CUSTOMER DEPOSIT	47 MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF	FINANCE DEPOSIT ALLOWANCE	CASH PRICE	AMOUNT OF CREDIT	FEES
£259**	£259	£1,700†	£21,282	£19,323	NIL

TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	OPTIONAL FINAL PAYMENT	ANNUAL MILEAGE	DURATION OF AGREEMENT	FIXED RATE OF INTEREST	REPRESENTATIVE APR (FIXED)
£23,496	£9,364	5,000*	48 MONTHS	3.83%	3.9%

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It's Shakespeare across the Bard

With a son studying The Bard it was an ideal time to visit the heart of Shakespeare's England.

What's more, we were accompanied by our four-legged friend as dogs were welcome at our four-star hotel in Stratford-upon-Avon.

We stayed at The Stratford, in Arden Street. Part of the Q Hotels group, it is a modern, well-appointed hotel featuring 102 beautiful bedrooms and suites, two dining options and excellent conference and meeting facilities. Dogs are welcome at 22 of the group's hotels, for a small additional charge.

The Stratford is ideally positioned for exploring the buildings linked to a man widely regarded as the greatest writer in the English language.

Shakespeare's birthplace

Anne Hathaway's Cottage

CHILDHOOD

Shakespeare's birthplace, his marital home New Place, his school and the home of his daughter Susanna – Hall's Croft – are all within walking distance. As is the Royal Shakespeare Company's theatre on the banks of the River Avon.

Shakespeare's wife Anne Hathaway's childhood home is a short drive from the centre of Stratford, but is well worth the trip.

Shakespeare's Birthplace Trust operates five homes linked to the Bard and dogs are allowed in the grounds of four of them, Mary Arden's Farm has livestock so dogs are not welcome.

Dogs are welcome in the bar at the Stratford. But if there's no man's best friend on tow, the hotel's Quills Restaurant offers an oft-changed menu. This is also where breakfast is served. The buffet-style breakfast featured everything you'd expect from a full English breakfast as well as fruit, pastries, cereals, cheese and cold meats. First port of call on our tour of Shakespeare homes was New Place, the site of the home where the Bard lived with his family from 1597 until his death in 1616, although the original building was demolished more than 250 years ago by the then owner, who was reportedly fed up of Shakespeare tourists.

The building that stands there now houses an exhibition on Shakespeare's life at the site, while the gardens are filled with flowers and sculptures inspired by his works, life and times.

Our next stop was Hall's Croft, home of Susanna and her husband physician John Hall. Also nearby is Shakespeare's schoolroom, not operated by the Birthplace Trust, and a little bit further afield is the Church of the Holy Trinity where the Bard was baptised and is buried. The church is free to visit, but a small donation is needed to see Shakespeare's grave.

After a very filling and tasty lunch at The Garrick, in High Street, we visited Shakespeare's birthplace. Costumed guides share tales of his childhood and family life. He also spent the first five years of his married life there. Aside from the Shakespeare homes, Stratford has plenty to keep visitors entertained, including town tours and ghost walks, the MAD Museum and Stratford Butterfly Farm, as well as plenty of shops for some retail therapy.

After checking out, we paid a visit to Anne Hathaway's Cottage, which also boasts nine acres of gardens, orchards and woodland. But there is a lot more to Shakespeare's England than just Stratford. Other popular attractions include Warwick Castle, Kenilworth Castle or for petrol heads there is the British Motor Museum in nearby Gaydon.

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PROPERTY

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING

A well-presented two-bedroom home close to amenities

Being well-presented and improved, this traditional two double-bedroomed home in Wolverhampton Road, Cannock, is for sale through Webbs Estate Agents at £133,000 and comes with a re-fitted kitchen.

A deceptively spacious well-presented home, it lies close to Cannock Town Centre and local amenities.

In brief the property consists of a dining room with an exposed feature brick wall, a lounge, a re-fitted kitchen and guest WC. To the first floor there are two double bedrooms and a family bathroom.

Outside the property has a traditional yard, driveway and garage and rear garden.

In more detail the lounge has a double-glazed bow window to the front, a storage cupboard, and a feature fire surround housing a gas fire, plus a door to the dining room. The dining room has a double-glazed window facing the rear elevation and an archway leading to the kitchen.

Being re-fitted, the kitchen has a range of wall, floor and draw units with wooden work surfaces over incorporating an inset Belfast sink, an integrated double oven, a gas five-ring hob, tiled flooring, down lighting and double-glazed windows and a door to the side elevation, and a further door to the guest WC.

Off the first floor landing, bedroom one has a double-glazed window overlooking the front elevation, a storage cupboard/wardrobe and a feature period-style fireplace. Bedroom two has a double glazed window facing the rear elevation,

The bathroom has an obscure double-glazed window facing the rear elevation, a wall mounted radiator, a panel bath with a shower over, a low level WC, a pedestal hand wash basin and part tiled walls.

The single garage has double doors to the front and power points and lighting. Outside is the traditional yard, parking and a garage, with an enclosed rear garden mainly laid to lawn with a paved patio area.

CANNOCK £133,000

TO VIEW THIS PROPERTY

AGENT: Webbs Estate Agents

TEL: 01543 468846

EMAIL: sales@webbsestateagents.co.uk

KEY FEATURES

- Traditional property
- Two bedrooms
- Re-fitted kitchen
- Traditional yard & rear garden
- Driveway & garage

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NORTON CANES
ARBOUR MEWS
NEW

- A spacious three bedroom detached
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, dining room, conservatory
- Breakfast kitchen
- Master bedroom with en suite
- Family bathroom
- Driveway and garage
- Private drive location
- EPC rating D

£249,950

HEDNESFORD
ANGLESEY COURT
NEW PRICE

- First floor 1 bedroom apartment
- Modern fitted kitchen
- Modern fitted bathroom
- Lounge, Study/Storage
- Garage, Allocated parking
- Good Location
- Intercom Entrance
- Must be Viewed
- EPC rating D

£99,950

CANNOCK
WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD
NEW PRICE

- Two bedroom Terraced
- Two Reception Rooms
- Modern fitted kitchen
- Family bathroom
- Off road parking, gargae
- Town centre location
- Rear Garden
- EPC rating E

£133,000

HEATH HAYES
DENBURY CLOSE
NEW PRICE

- A three bedroom property
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, refitted kitchen/diner
- Three bedrooms
- Family bathroom
- Enclosed rear garden
- Tandem garage
- Driveway
- EPC rating D

£206,000

CANNOCK
MANOR AVENUE
NEW PRICE

- Spacious three bedroom detached
- Hallway, Lounge
- Dining room
- Kitchen
- Utility room, cloakroom
- Three good sized bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Awaiting EPC rating

£230,000

CHESLYN HAY
STATION STREET

- A traditional two bedroom property
- Lounge, dining room
- Refitted kitchen
- Refitted first floor bathroom
- Two good sized bedrooms
- Garden to rear
- Viewing recommended
- Ideal first time buy
- EPC rating G

£129,950

HUNTINGTON
BADGER CLOSE

- A spacious three bedroom detached
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, dining room
- Kitchen, guest cloakroom
- Master bedroom with ensuite
- Family bathroom
- Garden to rear
- Gargae and parking
- EPC rating D

£225,000

HEATH HAYES
DENBURY CLOSE

- A three bedroom detached
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, dining room
- Kitchen
- Three bedrooms
- Family bathroom
- Good sized rear garden
- Garage and driveway
- Awaiting EPC rating

£210,000

CANNOCK
RUMER HILL ROAD

- A spacious 3 bedroom detached
- Split level lounge/diner, Kitchen/diner
- Guest cloakroom, utility
- Sitting room and conservatory
- Family bathroom
- Garden to rear, garage, driveway
- NO CHAIN
- Awaiting EPC rating

£230,000 Offers Over

CANNOCK
HEDNESFORD ROAD

- A traditional two bedroom
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, dining room
- Kitchen
- Two good sized bedrooms
- Off road parking
- Rear garden
- Town Centre location
- EPC rating D

£124,950

CANNOCK
MORETON STREET

- A two bedroom detached bungalow
- Central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, dining room
- Kitchen, shower room
- Two bedrooms
- Good sized rear garden
- In need of modernisation
- Awaiting EPC rating

£129,950

SHOAL HILL
SANDY LANE

- A spacious 4 bedroom detached
- 4 reception rooms
- Kitchen, utility room
- Conservatory, guest cloakroom
- Master bedroom with ensuite
- Family bathroom
- Double Garage
- NO CHAIN
- Awaiting EPC rating

£500,000 Offers In the region

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PROPERTY

Four-bedroomed detached home in a prime residential area enjoys open aspect to the rear

With the stamp duty paid by the owner, this four-bedroomed detached house for sale in West Butts Road, Etching Hill, is for sale through JR Distinctive Homes at £540,000.

This large executive home is situated in a prime residential area with an open aspect to the rear.

The Old Post Office, as the property is locally known, combines traditional features and proportions whilst having been re-modelled,

ETCHING HILL
£540,000

re-fitted and much improved by the current vendors.

To the front and side of the property is an extensive driveway with gates leading to a detached double garage to the rear of the plot. The rear garden is well maintained and is divided into vegetable garden, a large patio and seating and lawned areas with trees and shrubbery.

The accommodation briefly comprises an entrance hallway, lounge, sitting room, dining room, re-modelled lifestyle kitchen with a living area, a utility room, guest WC, split level landing (a possible roof terrace), four bedrooms, an en-suite and main bathroom, a double garage and extensive gardens.

Contact JR Distinctive Homes on 01889 577731.

Stunning semi-detached barn conversion with three bedrooms enjoys a countryside aspect

This stunning semi-detached barn conversion in Wolverhampton Road, Shareshill, called The Granary, is for sale through Paul Carr Estate Agents at £325,000.

Having central heating and double glazing, the accommodation includes a welcoming entrance hall with a guest WC off and a spacious lounge/dining room with a log burner.

There is a superb kitchen/family room with a range of wall and base

SHARESHILL
£325,000

units with granite work surfaces over, an integrated dishwasher, log burner and a useful laundry room.

To the first floor there are three bedrooms and a bathroom.

Outside there is a low maintenance garden to the front with a paved seating area, off-road parking and a garage in a separate block. In more detail there is ample parking space to the front, thanks to a full width driveway, flanked by the stone slabbed patio seating area and a small lawn and shrub borders.

The lounge is spacious, having the log burner on a high gloss plinth. The dining area is again spacious with neutral decor.

Contact Paul Carr Estate Agents on 01922 701001 for more details or to book a viewing.

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Bishton Lane
STAFFORD

Charming four bedroom detached cottage / Finished throughout to extremely high standard throughout / Modern fitted double glazed windows / Landscaped driveway with fully paved surrounds / Gated

£550,000

Heather Valley
HEDNESFORD

Stunning four bedroom detached family home / Set on highly sought after semi rural area / Occupies good sized corner plot / Mature three tier private rear garden / Driveway for up to six vehicles

£450,000

Littleworth Road
RAWNSLEY

Five bedroom detached family home / NO UPWARD CHAIN / Breakfast kitchen / Drive for more than ten vehicles / Enclosed rear garden / EPC: C

Offers in Excess of £400,000

Castlecroft
NORTON CANES

Immaculately presented executive four bedroom detached house / Exclusive sought after cul-de-sac location / Spacious reception rooms & bedrooms / Victorian style conservatory / Garage and drive

£375,000

Wellington Drive
CANNOCK

Outstanding & superbly maintained four/five bedroom detached family home / Set in quiet semi rural location overlooking woodland to the front / Immaculately presented & finished to high standard

£360,000

Watermint Close
WIMBLEBURY

Truly stunning executive detached family home / Finished to a show house standard and immaculately presented throughout / Completely refurbished over the past year / Superb new high spec fitted kitchen,

£350,000

Sweetbriar Way
WIMBLEBURY

Well presented executive four bedroom detached house / Occupies enviable secluded plot / Spacious living & sleeping accommodation / Six reception rooms including rear conservatory living area

£339,000

Canterbury Way
HEATH HAYES

Truly outstanding executive detached four bedroom family home / Finished to a show house standard and immaculately presented throughout / Stunning open plan high spec dining kitchen / Delightful

Offers in Excess of £270,000

Stafford Lane
HEDNESFORD

Immaculately presented three bedroom detached house / Substantially improved property / Spacious lounge / Good sized bedrooms / Garage and driveway

£270,000

Redmond Close
ETCHING HILL

NO UPWARD CHAIN / Stunning four bedroom detached family home / Set on end plot within quiet cul-de-sac / Refurbished & finished to high standard throughout / Brand new combi boiler / Contemporary

£259,000

Watermint Close
WIMBLEBURY

Three bedroom detached family home / Sought after location / Off road parking for 2/3 / Victorian pitched roof conservatory / Spacious lounge & separate dining room

Offers in Excess of £240,000

Pine Close
GREAT WYRLEY

Deceptively spacious two bedroom detached bungalow / Immaculately presented throughout with tasteful decoration / Modern fitted open plan kitchen-diner / Driveway with parking for up

£230,000

Carlton Close
HEATH HAYES

Three bedroom detached family home / Large corner plot within a sought after location / Open plan kitchen-diner finished to a high specification / Delightful south facing private rear garden

£220,000

Devonshire Drive
RUGELEY

Refurbished three bedroom semi detached bungalow / Spacious open plan living area / Three double bedrooms / Modern fitted bathroom with skylight / Parking & garage to the rear

Offers in the Region Of £220,000

Armitage Lane
BRERETON

Deceptively spacious four bedroom semi detached house / Spacious lounge-diner / Large breakfast kitchen / Conservatory / Versatile ground floor bedroom / En-suite to master / Private rear garden

£195,000

Bond Way
HEDNESFORD

Well presented three bedroom detached house / Occupies corner plot / Good sized lounge & open plan kitchen / Two car driveway / Private rear garden

£190,000

Holt Crescent
HEATH HAYES

Three bedroom semi detached house / NO ONWARD CHAIN / Refurbished property / Quiet end plot / Spacious open plan lounge-diner / Integral garage and driveway

£180,000

Pye Green Road
CANNOCK

Well presented three bedroom semi detached house / Built in popular 1930's style / Set on good sized plot & recently refurbished throughout / Superb spacious open plan dining kitchen

Offers in the Region Of £175,000

Wolverhampton Road
CANNOCK

Deceptively spacious two/three bedroom dormer style bungalow / ●●●NO ONWARD CHAIN●●● / Delightful rear conservatory / Low maintenance rear garden / Garage and driveway

£175,000

Linden View
HEDNESFORD

Three bedroom semi-detached house / Quiet cul-de-sac / Spacious lounge and separate dining room / Detached garage and driveway / Potential to extend

£170,000

The Lindens
RUGELEY

Three bedroom town house / Quiet cul-de-sac / Modern kitchen-diner / Integral garage and a private double driveway / Top floor master bedroom with en-suite

£170,000

Foster Avenue
HEDNESFORD

Traditional three bedroom semi detached house / Good sized private rear garden / Spacious lounge and open plan kitchen-diner / Driveway with parking for two vehicles

£150,000

Oakleigh Drive
BRERETON

Well presented two bedroom mid-terraced house / Set within quiet cul-de-sac location / Far reaching views of the countryside / Superb contemporary split level layout / Good sized tiered private rear garden

Offers in Excess of £150,000

Chequers Court
NORTON CANES

Well presented and deceptively spacious two bedroom property / Close to local shops and amenities / Close to local shops and amenities / Driveway with parking for two vehicles / Private rear garden

£145,000

Teddesley Way
HUNTINGTON

Immaculately presented two bedroom semi-detached house / Superb semi rural location near to Cannock Chase / Corner plot position with woodland to the rear / Delightful private rear garden not overlooked /

£140,000

Priory Road
BRERETON

Deceptively spacious two bedroom semi detached house / Set on generous plot / Ideal for first time buyers & investors / Gated driveway with parking for two vehicles / Surrounding gardens with hedged

£140,000

Newhall Street
CANNOCK

Deceptively spacious traditional end terrace house / Two spacious reception rooms / Two double bedrooms / NO ONWARD CHAIN / Good sized private rear garden

Offers in Excess of £130,000

Cannock Road
CANNOCK

Three bedroom mid terraced / spacious open plan living area / private rear garden / ideal for first time buyers and investors

£120,000

Highland Road
HUNTINGTON

Three bedroom mid terraced house / Gated driveway and front garden / Private rear garden / NO ONWARD CHAIN

Offers in Excess of £110,000

Apple Walk
HEATH HAYES

Mid terraced one bedroom house / Ideal for first time buyers or investors / Open plan living area / Open plan living area / Modern fitted kitchen / Off road parking for one vehicle plus visitors spaces

£95,000

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JR PROPERTIES

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Chase Side Drive, Rugeley — £345,000

● JR Distinctive Homes are pleased to offer for sale this executive detached property situated in an enviable private position with detached double garage and not being overlooked from front and rear. Offered with No Upward Chain this large family home has one of the largest garden plots on the development and has been refurbished and updated throughout by the

Armitage Road, Rugeley — £399,950

● JR Distinctive Homes are pleased to offer for sale this superb traditional detached property which has been upgraded and refurbished throughout by the present vendors. Offering flexible family accommodation and situated on a large garden plot with extensive parking this property simply has to viewed to appreciate. Dating back to circa 1880

East Butts Road, Etching Hill — £425,000

● JR Distinctive Homes are pleased to offer for sale this unique designed and much improved detached family home in a sought after location. This family sized home sits on a good sized garden plot with plentiful parking to front and private garden to rear. Internally the accommodation comprises: Hallway, Lounge, Open plan kitchen with dining room, utility

Deacons Way, Rugeley — £299,950

● JR Properties are pleased to market this five bedroom executive property,being offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Having Entrance Hallway, Guest Cloakroom, Dining Room,Lounge, Conservatory, Fitted Kitchen and Utility. Landing to Master Bedroom with En Suite, Four further Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway for several vehicles to Garage and Garden to rear with

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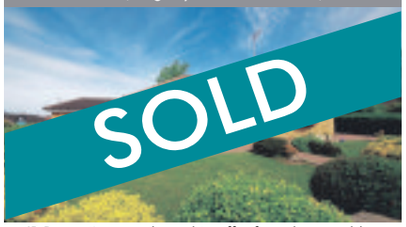
Blakeley Close, Rugeley £169,950

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this well presented modern three bedroom townhouse, situated in a quiet cul-de-sac location. Having Hallway, Guest Cloakroom, Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen and Impressive Conservatory to rear. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway for several vehicles and larger than

Chadsfield Road, Rugeley £249,950 OIEO



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale arguably one of the finest detached bungalows in Rugeley within walking distance to the town. The bungalow is situated on a large mature garden plot surrounded by similar detached bungalows in a leafy part of the town. The plot has two driveway entrances providing plentiful off road

The Willows, Brereton £179,995

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this well presented three bedroom dormer style semi detached property in a sought after location. The property offers flexible accommodation and a private rear garden also features. Internally the accommodation comprises: Hallway, Lounge, Dining Room/ Bedroom Three, Lounge,

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Huntsmans Walk, Rugeley £185,000

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this well presented family home in a popular location. The property has three good sized bedrooms, large dining kitchen, lounge, utility and conservatory and modern bathroom. Pleasant rear garden, garage and parking to front also feature..

Hednesford Road, Rugeley £169,995

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this immaculately presented three bedroom town house. The property is located in a good position with private walled gardens and two allocated parking spaces. Internally there are three bedrooms, lounge, large kitchen, guest wc and delightful conservatory to rear

Durham Drive, Rugeley £224,950

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this very well presented and much improved link detached family home. Situated on a private garden corner plot this three bedroom family home offers flexible accommodation and must be viewed to appreciate: Accommodation in brief comprises: Hallway, Lounge, Dining Room, Large

Blakeley Close, Rugeley £129,950

● JR Properties are pleased to market this well presented two bedroom terraced home, ideal for FIRST TIME BUYERS OR INVESTORS. Having Entrance Hallway, Guest Cloakroom, Fitted Kitchen and Lounge. Landing to Two Double Bedrooms and Bathroom. Gardens to front and rear and allocated parking in separate car park.

Brindley Bank Road, Rugeley £239,950

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this refurbished detached bungalow situated at the end of a popular cul-de-sac. Offered with no upward chain this three bedroom bungalow has been remodeled and refurbished throughout by the current seller and has a refitted luxury bathroom and grey gloss high end kitchen

St Johns Drive, Hawksyard £229,950

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this well presented and spacious three bedroom detached family home situated on the ever popular Hawksyard development. The property sits on a corner position at the beginning of the development and overlooks a green area to the front. Internally the current vendors have

Lockside View, Rugeley £189,995

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this well presented and spacious three bedroom semi detached property located close to the town centre and local amenities. Internal inspection is highly recommended. Accommodation comprises: Hallway, Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen, Three bedrooms, Bathroom, Front and rear

Sheringham Drive, Etching £265,000

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this extended three double bedroom bungalow situated at the end of a cul-de-sac. The bungalow sits on an elevated plot with far reaching views to the front and internal inspection is highly recommended to appreciate the spacious design and layout, also offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN

Somerset Avenue, Rugeley £186,950

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this spacious and well presented detached family home situated on a large impressive plot with private gardens and plentiful parking. Briefly comprising hallway, guest wc, lounge, kitchen/diner, study, three bedrooms and bathroom, viewing essential

Salisbury Close, Rugeley £299,950 OIEO

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this well presented and spacious four bedroom detached property situated on a corner plot with views towards Cannock Chase to rear. The property benefits from refitted bathrooms, large reception rooms, plentiful parking to front and landscaped rear garden, viewing essential

Chester Road, Rugeley £129,995

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this lovely two bedroom town house situated on the popular Birches development. Having an enviable location in a small row of properties with open aspect to front and side with No Upward Chain. Ideal FTB/ Investment purchase, viewing essential

Anson Mews, Rugeley £84,995

● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this one bedroom ground floor apartment offered with No Upward Chain. The apartment has a pleasant courtyard garden to rear backing onto the Trent and Mersey Canal and one allocated parking space. Viewing Essential

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Traditional three storey house in a sought-after location

CHESLYN HAY
£190,000

This deceptively spacious three bedroomed, traditional three storey property in the sought-after location of Cheslyn Hay in Station Street, is for sale through Webbs estate agents at £190,000.

In brief it has a dining room, a lounge, a cottage-style kitchen, cellar, conservatory, three bedrooms, two bathrooms, landscaped gardens and a driveway.

In more detail the dining room has a bay window to the front and a feature fireplace with a slate hearth and is carpeted. It has ceiling coving and a ceiling rose.

The lounge has a window to the rear, a red brick fireplace with an oak-effect beam over, a brick hearth with a log burning stove, a staircase leading to the first floor and a door leading to the cellar.

Having a window to the side, the kitchen includes a range of wall and base units with roll top work

surfaces incorporating a single bowl sink and drainer, an integrated extractor hood, space for a range cooker and attractive white splash-back tiling.

The conservatory is of a good size, with floor tiling and floor to ceiling windows.

The rear garden has a decking area with steps leading down to the Indian stone patio area, the remainder laid to lawn, enclosed by shrubs and fencing, a brick built outside WC, and a side gate leading to the driveway.

The selling agents are expecting a great deal of interest to be shown in the sale of this property.

For further information, or to book that all important viewing to see if this is the ideal next home for you, contact Webbs estate agents on 01543 468846.

Well-presented spacious home with four beds in popular area

CANNOCK
£500,000 >>>

A very well-presented and exceptionally spacious four-bedroomed detached family residence, Pendle House, 13 Sandy Lane, Cannock, is for sale through Flint & Co now at £500,000.

It is ideally located in the popular and prestigious area of Shoal Hill.

Featuring multiple reception areas with four double bedrooms, this property is a classy retreat for larger families, and truly needs to be viewed to be fully appreciated.

It has an entrance porch, grand entrance hallway, sitting room, guest WC, breakfast kitchen/diner, laundry room, dining room, conservatory, lounge, four bedrooms and an en-suite bathroom, along with a family bathroom with a separate walk-in shower.

The house has a driveway and detached double garage.

Call Flint & Co on 01543 624400.

Four-bedroomed executive detached in great location has mature plot

RUGELEY
£500,000 <<<

An executive detached family home in an exceptional location, 6 Oakwood, Rugeley, is for sale through JR Distinctive Homes at offers over £500,000.

It lies on the rural fringes of Cannock Chase – an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Being beautifully presented, this family home has flexible accommodation and a mature garden plot, with its very own copse to the side, which is ideal for a children's play area.

It has an enclosed porch, a reception hall, guest cloakroom/WC, a lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility area, study, sitting room, galleried landing, bedroom one (en-suite), three further bedrooms, a bathroom and an integral garage.

In more detail, the lounge has sliding patio doors leading to the rear garden.

Contact JR Distinctive Homes on 01889 577731.

Paul Carr Estate Agents

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Burntwood Office - o/o £335,000

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- Impressive detached family home
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- Stunning surrounding views
- Long, extensive driveway & garaging

3 | 1 | D

Great Wyrley Office - £325,000

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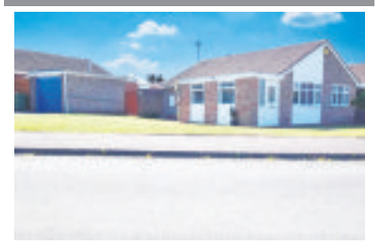
Great Wyrley Office - £229,950



CHESLYN HAY, BERWYN GROVE

- Detached bungalow
- Popular Cul-de-Sac location
- Driveway & detached garage
- No onward chain

2 | 1 | D

Burntwood Office - £225,000

BURNTWOOD, HIGHFIELDS

- Apple Tree Cottage, circa 1800's
- Family semi, oozing great character
- Generous kitchen, big conservatory
- Multi-vehicle carport, ample garden

3 | 1 | D

Great Wyrley Office - £220,000

CHURCHBRIDGE, LOCKSIDE

- Immaculate modern semi
- Popular estate
- Cul-de-Sac location
- Viewing highly recommended

3 | 2 | B

Great Wyrley Office - £215,000

GREAT WYRLEY, WALSALL ROAD

- Extended 2/3 Bedroom Semi
- Annexe to ground floor
- Field Views To The Rear
- No Upward Chain

3 | 2 | E

Burntwood Office - £190,000

HEDNESFORD, FISHER STREET

- Charming semi-detached bungalow
- Outskirts of Cannock Chase
- Living room, dining conservatory
- Lovely rear garden, double garage

2 | 1

Burntwood Office - £165,000

BURNTWOOD, CHASE ROAD

- Attn First Time Buyer & Investors
- Spacious Well Positioned Semi
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- Close to Swan Island Village Shops

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Burntwood Office - £155,000

CANNOCK, HUNTINGTON TERRACE ROAD

- Modern three-storey terrace
- Open plan living room, fitted kitchen
- Master bedroom with dressing area
- Rear garden, allocated parking

3 | 1 | C

Great Wyrley Office - £125,000

GREAT WYRLEY, COLINWOOD CLOSE

- Mid town house
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- Close to amenities, schools etc.
- Driveway parking

3 | 1 | D

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†Please consult dealer for full terms and conditions of Motability offers. Pictures for illustration purposes only

MOTORING

Pricing now released for Vauxhall's new Corsa GSi

Power comes from a 1.4 turbo engine

Arriving in showrooms in September, Vauxhall's new Corsa GSi is available to order now priced from £18,995 on-the-road.

Standard specification includes 17-inch bi-colour cut alloy wheels, GSi rear roof spoiler, sports front grille, GSi air dam/bumper and side sills.

The GSi also gets dark tinted rear windows, carbon effect exterior mirrors and grille bar, and LED daytime running lights.

Inside, sports-style front seats, a leather-covered flat-bottom steering wheel and Navi R4.0 IntelliLink infotainment, offering Apple CarPlay and Android Auto connectivity, complete the package.

Priced at £1,900, the GSi Plus Pack, consisting of 18-inch diamond cut alloy wheels, Recaro leather seats and bi-xenon headlights with cornering light, is also available.

Built on a Corsa VXR chassis, the new GSi is powered by a punchy 1.4-litre turbo engine with 150PS and 220Nm of torque.

Acceleration from 0-62 mph takes just 8.9 seconds, with strong performance right through to its maximum speed of 129mph.

An ample 220Nm of torque between 2,750 to 4,500rpm, allied to a short-ratio six-speed gearbox, also helps the GSi accelerate from 50-70mph in fifth gear in just 9.9 seconds.

In addition to delivering high performance, the Corsa GSi is also part of Vauxhall's latest Euro 6d-TEMP rollout (fuel economy 49.6mpg combined, CO2 emissions from 139g/km).

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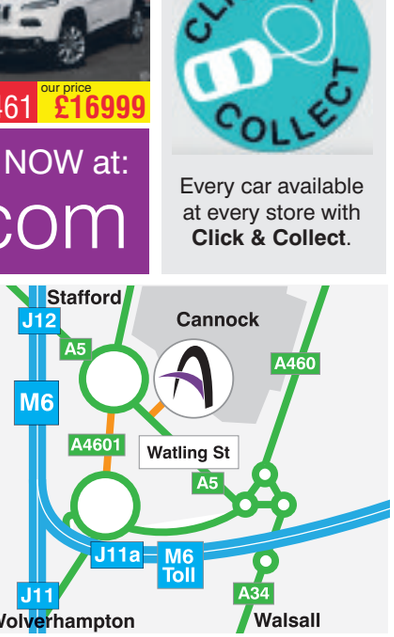

Smile into the sunset in sunny Swift

By Carmel Stewart

If your idea of a fun drive is rev it up, release the handbrake and off you go, then the new Swift Sport is probably not the car for you.

Neatly packaged with some great exterior colours, the newest car in the excellent Suzuki line-up is lower, wider and lighter than the model it replaces and has a new engine, ie new to this car – which adds a fraction more bhp to the mix and a hefty 44 per cent more torque.

This same 'Boosterjet' engine is strutting its stuff under the bonnets of the Vitara and the S-Cross.

Precise

It is also a car which has to be worked a little to extract the best from its 1.4litre four-cylinder 140ps turbocharged petrol power pack via the precise six-speed manual box.

Point and shoot is fine for the A to B but give it a push and you'll be in the X to Z zone and laughing, or at least smiling, all the way into the sunset.

Behind that sporty steering wheel, sitting snuggly in the (very) grippy sports seats, the Swift Sport proved immediately agile, comfortable and composed, requiring no time at all to adjust to any vagaries – there were none.

In town centres it was readily manoeuvrable and unflustered, while on the open road a touch of acceleration and a quick shift of the gears sent it into fun mode.

Responsive steering and a well set-up suspension added to the finely balanced experience.

Neatly packaged with great colours

And don't be deterred by the figures. Nought to 62mph in 8.1 seconds and a top speed of 130mph may not sound all that exciting but that is only part of the story. To experience the real thing, you need to get behind the wheel.

Suzuki has made the buying process very easy – one engine, one interior, six colours, no options, one price – £17,999.

The sporty interior is very comfortable and user friendly with metal pedals and red accents, plus six airbags, DAB radio, LED daytime running lights, Bluetooth, smartphone connectivity, rear view camera, front fog lamps, navigation, 17-inch alloys, all-round electric windows, lane departure warning, adaptive cruise control and high beam assist all fitted as standard.

The five body colours, whether metallic or solid, are included in the price, with Champion Yellow, which harks back to the Suzuki Works Junior Rally Car, expected to be top choice for many. Hi-tech features include autonomous braking whereby laser sensors and a monocular camera determine when a collision is imminent. An alarm sounds and, if the driver fails to take action, the brakes are deployed in stages. There is also a drowsiness alert which will sound a buzzer and flash lights should the vehicle start weaving at speeds of more than 37mph – lane dodgers beware.

The Swift Sport proved immediately agile, comfortable and composed

For those who like to know just how speedy they really are, Suzuki has included an information graphic on the dash displaying the turbo boost, engine output, torque data and G-force tracking.

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Official Fuel Consumption Figures for the Suzuki range mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km).
Suzuki Celerio range: Urban 55.3-55.3 (5.1-5.1), Extra Urban 76.3-76.3 (3.7-3.7), Combined 65.7-65.7 (4.3-4.3), CO_2 emissions 99-99 g/km. Suzuki Ignis range: Urban from 51.3 (5.5) to 57.6 (4.9), Extra Urban from 64.2 (4.4) to 70.6 (4.0), Combined from 60.1 (4.7) to 65.7 (4.3). Official CO_2 emissions 106-97g/km. Suzuki Swift range: Urban 41.5-46.3 (6.8-6.1), Extra urban 57.6-64.2 (4.9-4.4), Combined 50.4-56.5 (5.6-5.0). CO_2 emissions 128g-116g/km. Suzuki Baleno range: Urban 44.8-60.1 (6.3-4.7), Extra urban 68.8-78.4 (4.1)-(3.6), Combined 57.6-70.6 (4.9-4.0). CO_2 emissions 115g/km to 94g/km. Suzuki Vitara range mpg: Urban 42.1-61.4 (6.7-4.6), Extra Urban 55.4-76.3 (5.1-3.7), Combined 49.5-70.6 (5.7-4.0), CO_2 emissions 131g/km to 106 g/km. Suzuki S-Cross range: Urban 39.7-61.4 (7.1-4.6), Extra urban 55.3-74.3 (5.1-3.8), Combined 47.8-68.9 (5.9-4.1). CO_2 emissions 135g/km to 108g/km.
The above fuel consumption figures are based on an EU test for comparative purposes only and may not reflect real driving results. Offer subject to availability. Metallic paint charged at extra cost. Offers exclusive to Autosales. Stock vehicles only. *Personal Contract Purchase (PCP) Example - Celerio SZ2: Cash Price (including customer saving) £7,499, Deposit £1,558.63, Total amount of Credit £5,940.37, Agreement Duration 49 months, 48 Repayments of £89, Purchase Fee (included in Optional Final Repayment) £10, Optional Final repayment £2,694, Total amount payable £8,524.63, Interest Rate (fixed) 5.7%, Representative APR 5.9% APR. Based on 6,000 miles per annum. With Suzuki Personal Contract Purchase (PCP) you have the option at the end of the agreement to: 1. Return the vehicle and not pay the Optional Final Payment. If the vehicle has exceeded the maximum agreed mileage a charge per excess mile will apply. (0 - 4999 miles: 7.0 pence per mile + VAT or 5000 miles or over: 14.0 pence per mile + VAT). If the vehicle is in good condition (fair wear and tear accepted) and has not exceeded the maximum agreed mileage you will have nothing further to pay. 2. Pay the Optional Final Payment to own the vehicle or 3. Part exchange the vehicle subject to settlement of your existing credit agreement; new credit agreements are subject to status

SUZUKI

Revised Fabia adds whole lot more

By James Parker

Škoda has announced the new range line-up, specifications and RRP pricing for the facelifted Fabia. Order books for the updated supermini are open now, with first deliveries expected in September. With a new, all-petrol engine range, boosted equipment levels, new safety systems and an even sharper look, the facelifted Fabia is set to raise sector standards once again.

The range will feature five familiar trim levels; S, SE, SE L, Monte Carlo and Colour Edition, and as with the current model, it will be available in hatch and estate forms. RRP prices range from £11,160 for the entry-level 1.0 MPI S hatch model to £17,950 for the 1.0 TSI 110 DSG SE L estate.

The new all-petrol engine range features state-of-the-art three-cylinder power units. Two MPI engines feature indirect injection and produce outputs of 60PS and 75PS respectively, while the two TSI engines are packed with advanced engineering, including turbocharging and direct petrol injection, enabling them to generate 95PS and 110PS. Both TSI engines are fitted with a petrol particulate filter. The most powerful of the quartet of engines can be matched with a seven-speed DSG gearbox as an option.

High equipment levels have been one of the Fabia's core strengths since its first appearance in 1999. The new facelifted model continues the Škoda tradition with exceptionally generous equipment lists across the range. LED daytime running lights are now standard across the range, while Front assist and a Multifunction trip computer are included on all models for the first time.

SE models gain front fog lights and 15-inch Cygnus alloy wheels over the outgoing model, along with Radio Swing Plus and auto up/down function for the electric windows. Colour Edition models gain 16-inch Vigo alloy wheels in white, silver or black.

Customers opting for the SE L benefit from an even more significant equipment boost over the previous model. All Fabia SE L models now feature Amundsen satellite navigation, Infotainment online (for one year), lighting in the front centre console and 16-inch Evora alloy wheels. These items are in addition to the Fabia SE L's already comprehensive specification list.

The ever-popular Fabia Monte Carlo further enhances its reputation for sportiness with a range of new features. These include climate control air conditioning, LED rear lights, rear electric windows and new seat upholstery. The styling package includes a black front spoiler, black roof, black floor mats and carbon-effect dashboard trim.

A new range of options has also been introduced – allowing owners to perfectly tailor their Fabia. Included for the first time are LED headlights (£960 RRP), 18-inch Vega alloy wheels (Monte Carlo Hatch only £600 RRP) and Blind spot detection and rear traffic alert (£390 RRP).

The new Blind spot detection feature alerts the driver to the presence of vehicles in the blind spot or approaching rapidly from behind when driving on multi-lane highways. The Rear Traffic Alert system monitors what is going on behind the vehicle and warns of a risk of collision when reversing.

Of course, no new Škoda would be complete without additional Simply Clever features. In addition to the existing Simply Clever elements, the ice scraper concealed in the fuel filler flap now incorporates a gauge for measuring the tyre tread depth.

Order books are now open for the updated Fabia supermini with deliveries expected in September

And it's not just the equipment levels that have been improved. The Fabia's award-winning design has been given a subtle update. Building on the distinctive looks of the outgoing model, new LED daytime running lights instantly make the car more noticeable on the road. The revised bonnet and grille combine to give the Fabia a sleeker appearance, finished by the narrower headlights. At the back, the design of the rear bumper is refined with added reflectors increasing the car's visibility - especially at night.

The Fabia has been a mainstay of Škoda's range since its introduction 19 years ago with more than four million examples having rolled off the production line. The third-generation supermini was launched in 2014 and has already clocked up more than half a million sales worldwide – making it the brand's top seller in Europe and second-biggest here in the UK.

It's also proved rather popular with the motoring media, racking up a host of industry awards – including What Car? Car of the Year in 2014.

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Official fuel consumption for the ŠKODA CITIGO range in mpg (litres/100km): Urban 51.4 (5.5) to 57.7 (4.9); Extra Urban 72.4 (3.9) to 76.4 (3.7); Combined 64.2 (4.4) to 68.9 (4.1). CO_2 emissions for the ŠKODA CITIGO range are 103 to 96 g/km. Standard EU test figures are for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results.

The e-Golf is based on the Volkswagen hatchback, the Mark 7 version launched last year

E-driving – a steep learning curve but what a revelation

By John Griffiths

It was, I confess, with considerable apprehension that I took delivery of the e-Golf.

I've driven all-electric cars before, of course, but mostly for short tests – never for a week when I was determined it would be my only transport, including on a 220-mile cross country business trip.

Even the night before, I was seriously wondering if it would be sensible to get my own car out of the garage. This is new technology, and it's hard to mentally dismiss half a century of reliance on petrol and diesel – and probably some prejudice. But I had decided to take the challenge, and get a glimpse of what for many of us will be the future of motoring.

It was a steep learning curve but what a revelation! Once I was over the electric car 'range anxiety' I was actually enjoying the e-Golf's smooth and silent performance, to say nothing of its economy. Yes, I could live with this car. Easily.

Rewarding

The e-Golf is based on the Volkswagen hatchback, the Mark 7 version launched last year, with the same levels of interior space and (you may be surprised) rewarding driving experience. With a 0 to 62mph time of 9.6 seconds, it certainly couldn't be tarnished with the 'milk float' tag sometimes applied to electric vehicles.

The lithium batteries weigh in at 318kg, but they are built into the car's floor which keeps the centre of gravity low and aids stability. The motor produces 136PS of power and a hefty 290Nm of torque which is basically all available from the moment it starts to spin, which makes the car feel particularly responsive.

It comes with a top-of-the range specification with a price tag of £28,230 after taking account of the government's (EV) grant.

I took an old friend for a drive and he was clearly impressed – except for the price, which would be a big jump from his current petrol Golf. That got me wondering if VW would produce a cheaper, lower spec model to make it more accessible. Of course some of the technology is indispensible for an EV, such as its very effective energy regeneration system and the optional heat pump to reduce the climate control/hot air system's consumption.

The official (lab test) credits the battery pack with a 183-mile capability, but VW says 125 miles is more realistic.

As an electric first-timer, I nervously set off from Shropshire for Malmsbury in Wiltshire and made my first stop at Gloucester services on the M5. I plugged in to the CCS 7kw DC fast charger and went for a coffee. Topping up to full charge took half an hour, and cost £4.17. I reached my destination and completed a few more miles before heading home. I stopped at Strensham services near Worcester, charging in 35 minutes at a cost of £5.28 – as it turned out I would have reached home safely without the stop. I topped up at Telford's M54 services later that evening, so I calculated I had covered around 235 miles at a cost of £15.

The car comes with a top-of-the range specification

The 7kw DC fast chargers will top up the e-Golf with 80 per cent of maximum power in around 45 minutes. You can also used other public chargers such as the lower powered (and slower) AC system, and the car also came with leads for use with a domestic 13amp plug (again slower and best for overnight charging). I would go for the optional home charging box, wired to a night rate supply, for convenience and to save even more money.

The car came with a card for use with one charging company's machines, but since this was my 'green' week I decided to go the whole hog and downloaded the Ecotricity smartphone app. The company only sells power generated by renewable sources and uses its profits to invest in more capacity.

As well as setting up for a charge, this useful app shows you how long you have left, where the chargers are and even which ones are working (or not, as the case may be).

There's also the Zap Maps website, which shows the location and type of charger. Press the e-Golf satnav's 'points of interest' button and this will also show you the nearest chargers, and give you directions to get there.

There are a nuber of tricks you pick up to eke out your battery power, but VW has thought of the best ones anyway. For example, the automatic transmission level has the usual park, neutral reverse and drive positions but since this is an electric motor there's only one gear.

On the maximum setting, when you take your foot off the accelerator it feels as if you're actual braking – fortunately that also triggers the stop lights to deter tailgaters from attempting to drive into your boot.

There's also a driving mode button which controls normal eco and eco+ modes – the latter to reduce motor output to 95 and 75PS respectively and therefore reduce consumption at the expense of some performance. I found the eco setting ideal for motorway cruising, and eco+ my preference around town.

It isn't only energy costs where e-Golf drivers save money. It produces zero emissions so you don't pay any vehicle excise duty, or car tax, and the benefit-in-kind tax rate for company car drivers is the lowest possible,

The e-Golf is an excellent example of current electric vehicles and a look into the future – most manufacturers including VW are committed to electric vehicles with new models just around the corner. It won't suit everyone, of course, but for many it will prove hardly any less practical than a conventional car. It requires practice, a little learning and perhaps a shift in mind set, but a week with the e-Golf has certainly boosted my confidence in the technology.

The e-Golf's battery pack is subject to an eight year. 100,000-mile warrant – considerably longer than the rest of the car's standard three years/60,000 miles.

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I-PACE app puts electrical Jaguar into your pocket

Jaguar has launched an intelligent app to help drivers experience life with its all-electric I-PACE before even getting behind the wheel.

The Go I-PACE app captures journey data to calculate potential cost savings, show how much battery would be used per trip and tell users how many charges they would need in a week if they were driving the I-PACE.

As it builds a unique picture of a vehicle's use, the app will even show how many journeys, if any, would have needed a stop to charge the EV's advanced Lithium-ion battery. Journeys over 50 miles represent only two per cent of all UK trips. I-PACE, which has a maximum range of 298 miles (WLTP), could complete 98 per cent of these using just a fraction of a single charge.

When opening the app, users can enter the real-world fuel economy of their existing vehicle to calculate the cost savings switching to the I-PACE would deliver. Once enough journeys have been logged, the app will estimate the range drivers can expect to achieve from a full charge. An interactive map allows users to search for the nearest charging points along a chosen route or within a local area.

Ian Hoban, vehicle line director, Jaguar I-PACE said: "Making the switch to EV ownership is a big decision. We're confident anyone who experiences the I-PACE will relish its engaging driving dynamics, performance, practicality and comfort.

What a test drive doesn't show is the lower running costs and convenience of living with our electric performance SUV on a daily basis. The Go I-PACE app is designed to help potential customers make an informed decision."

Compatible with Apple operating systems and coming soon for Android, the Go I-PACE app runs in the background and uses the device's location services to track individual journeys. It can also distinguish between different modes of transport to make sure it collects accurate data, even prompting users to confirm that individual trips were made by car for unusual routes – for instance on journeys made by cycling rather than behind the wheel.

The Jaguar I-PACE can achieve a 0-80 per cent charge in 85 minutes (50kW DC rapid) and can achieve the same level in just over 10 hours using a residential AC wall box (7kW), ideal for overnight charging at home. When plugged in, owners can even choose the time at which their vehicle begins charging, to take advantage of cheaper energy tariffs. A suite of smart range-optimising technologies includes a battery pre-conditioning system that, when plugged in, will automatically raise or lower the temperature of the battery to maximise range ahead of driving away.

Owners can also take advantage of software updates that ensure I-PACE is always running the latest version.

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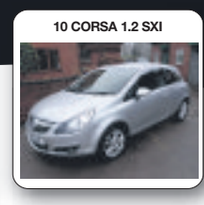
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Please note that the deadline for our weekly Cannock Chronicle is 4pm every Friday, for the following weeks edition.

This is subject to change Bank Holidays.

Eg (4pm Thursday)

Cannock Reception will be closing at 4.30pm on a Friday.

Deaths

ANGUS
Duncan Joseph

Passed away peacefully at home on July 2, 2018.

Much loved Husband, Dad and Grandad.

Will be missed by all Family and Friends.

Funeral Service on Tuesday, July 24, 2018 at St Mary's Church, 12.30pm, followed on with Burial at Our Lady of Lourdes, 2pm.

Close Family flowers only. Donations forwarded to The MND Association c/o

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49 Park Road
Cannock
Telephone 01543 572644.

BURLEY
Raymond

Of Huntington, passed away peacefully on July 9, 2018, aged 84 years.

Will be sadly missed by all Family and Friends.

Funeral Service will take place at Stafford Crematorium, on Tuesday, July 24, at 2.30pm.

Family flowers only please, donations if desired for The Suez Veterans Association will be gratefully received.

May he rest in peace.

Further inquiries to

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Deaths

BURN
James Larry

Of Lion Street, Rugeley.

Passed away on June 30, 2018.

Funeral Service will take place at Stafford Crematorium, on Friday, July 20, at 11am.

Any further inquiries to

Stacey's
Family Funeral Directors
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Hednesford, WS12 4AR
01543 422524

CHAMBERS
Janet Penman Martin

Passed away peacefully on Sunday, July 8, 2018, aged 87 years.

Janet was much loved and will be missed dearly by all of her Family and Friends.

The funeral Service will take place on Monday, July 23, 2018, at Bethel Methodist Church, Bridgtown, at 10am, followed by a Committal at Stafford Crematorium.

Family flowers only please.

Donations, if so desired for Dementia UK

All inquires c/o

A.J. Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
70 Church Street,
Cannock, WS11 1DH
01543 502322

CRADDOCK
Dana

Of Brereton

Passed away July 3, 2018, aged 73 years.

Funeral Service will take place at Stafford Crematorium on Wednesday, July 25, 2018 at 10am.

No flowers by request. Donations for the British Heart Foundation c/o

Stacey's
Family Funeral Directors
30 Greenheath Road
Hednesford, WS12 4AR
01543 422524

ECCLESTON
Thomas Harry

Passed away peacefully on Tuesday, June 19, 2018, aged 94 years.

Thomas was much loved and will be missed dearly by all of his Family and Friends.

His Funeral Service will take palace on Thursday, July 19, 2018, at Chadsmoor Methodist Church, at 10am, followed by a Burial at St Peters Church, Hednesford.

Family flowers only please.

Donations if so desired for Catherine Care.

All inquiries c/o

A.J. Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
70 Church Street,
Cannock, WS11 1DH
01543 502322

FELLOWS
Nellie
nee LLoyd

Passed away peacefully at County Hospital, Stafford on Monday, July 2, 2018, aged 105, with her Family at her side.

She will be missed by all who knew her, beloved Mom, Nan, Nanna and Great Great Grandma.

Funeral Service to be held on Tuesday July 24, at 10.30am at St. Lukes Church, followed by interment at Cannock Cemetary.

All flowers and your presence in Church welcome.

Inquiries c/o

CO OP FUNERAL SERVICES
49, Park Road
Cannock
01543 572644.

TAYLOR
Robert Ernest

Sadly passed away on Saturday, July 7, 2018, aged 61 years.

Robert was much loved and will be missed dearly by all of his Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service will take place on Wednesday, July 25, 2018, at Stafford Crematorium at 2pm.

Family flowers only please.

Donations, if so desired for The British Heart Foundation.

All inquires c/o

A.J. Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
70 Church Street,
Cannock, WS11 1DH
01543 502322

In Memoriam

WILKES
William 22.07.84
Mabel 24.07.99
Mom and Dad
Always in our thoughts.
Never to be forgotten.
Love Bill and Sue

Birthday Remembrances

LAWTON
Dennis
84 years 19 July 2018
We cannot send a Birthday card your hand we cannot touch.
But God will take our greeting to the one we love so much.
Wife Freda, Dee, Alan, Kev, Carol, Jayne, Dave, Shaz, Steve, Louise, Glen and Families.

LAWTON
Dennis
84 years 19 July 2018
It's the first Birthday without you, our Kid
But thanks for all the wonderful memories you have left us.
Brother Tom and Family.

PARKER
Jean
20.07.17
To hear your voice, to see your smile, to sit and talk awhile.
To be together in the same old way, would be my dearest wish for every day.
Miss you loads.
Chris.

In Memoriam (Active Service - Sunday)

PRIVATE ROBERTS
Walter Joseph
97927 2nd Battalion Sherwood Foresters. Notts and Derby Regiment
Died July 22, 1918 aged 19.
Lest We Forget
Great Niece Patty Lewis Roden and Families.

Acknowledgements

THOMAS
Margaret

Brian and Family would like to thank everyone who attended Margaret's Funeral. Also, to all who showed their support on this very sad occasion.

Donations of £502 raised in aid of St. Giles. Thank you all.

Family
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what's on

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3 Home & Services

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4 Pets & Animals

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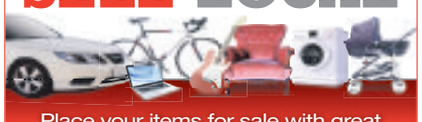

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10 Personals

Personal

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9 Local Information

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Public Notices

STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 DIVERSION OF VEHICULAR TRAFFIC COLLIERY ROAD, RUGELEY

Notice is hereby given that Staffordshire County Council intend not less than seven days from the date of this notice to make an Order the effect of which is to prohibit any vehicle from proceeding along Colliery Road, Rugeley from its junction with Coalpit Lane to its junction with Startley Lane. For more information regarding access arrangements, timings and diversion routes please visit https://roadworks.org?tm=105721729. The Order will come into operation on 6 August 2018 and the said works will commence on or as near as practicable to that date. It is anticipated the works will be completed by 10 August 2018. The Order will remain in force for a period of 18 months or until the new water connection works undertaken by South Staffordshire Water, which it is proposed to carry out on or near the road have been completed, whichever is the earlier.

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 (AS AMENDED)
ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991
PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO. 50 (A) CANNOCK TOWN PARISH
TEMPORARY CLOSURE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Staffordshire County Council, on 18 July 2017, made an Order the effect of which is to prohibit any pedestrian from proceeding along that length of Public Footpath No. 50 (A) Cannock Town Council, starting from a point approximately 47 metres south west of the junction of Pebble Mill Drive and Ridings Brook Drive, for a distance of approximately 68 metres in a south easterly direction. The closure is required due to works in connection with the railway lines including installation of overhead power line equipment and renewal and realignment of the track.

A temporary diversion will be in place during the period of the closure as shown on the plan.

A plan will be displayed showing the lengths of public footpaths to be closed and unaffected rights of way in the area.

This Order came into operation on 21 July 2017 and will remain in force for a further period of six months or until the railway line works are complete, whichever is the earlier. If necessary, after six months, the Order may be extended for a further period with the approval of the Secretary of State.

John Tradewell, Director Strategy, Governance and Change
Staffordshire Place 2, Tipping Street, Stafford ST16 2DH

Enquiries: Network Rail National Helpline 03457 11 41 41

Date: 19 July 2018

(CANNOCK CHASE) (CIVIL ENFORCEMENT OF PARKING) (PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING AND LOADING AND PARKING PLACES) ORDER 2009 (AMENDMENT) NO. 35/20XX

Staffordshire County Council propose to make a Traffic Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to introduce No Waiting at Any Time on Wolverhampton Road, Cannock. Documents may be examined during office hours at 1 Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2DH and during opening hours at Cannock Library, Manor Avenue, Cannock, Staffordshire or at www.staffordshire.gov.uk/trafficregulationorders. Objections should be sent in writing to: Strategic Asset and Network Management, Highways, 2 Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2DH or to: trafficregulationorderobjections@staffordshire.gov.uk not later than 09 August 2018 quoting reference HoCPS/TM/TR12/18 and stating the grounds on which they are made.

THE COUNCIL IS TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING PROPOSALS
Cannock Chase COUNCIL

Case Officer – Nigel Gould
Location: JK's Bar and Bistro, 77, High Green, Cannock
CH/18/245 Variation of condition 2 (hours restriction) on planning permission CH/94/0564 to extend the opening hours to 09:00 - 24:00 Monday to Wednesday, 09:00 - 02:00 Thursday and Sunday and 09:00 - 03:00 Friday to Saturday
Case Officer – Audrey Lewis
Location: Former Cannock Royal British Legion, 21, Stafford Road, Cannock
CH/18/247 Change of use to 25 bedroom House of Multiple Occupancy (HMO) and front and side extensions and roof alterations

All applications may be inspected electronically at the Civic Centre, Beecroft Road, Cannock.
Applications relating to Rugeley and Brereton may also be inspected by paper file at the Rugeley Area Housing Office, Anson Street, Rugeley.
The Council has published a Service Charter for publicity and information about planning applications and a Code of Conduct for the Planning Process both of which are obtainable from Council Offices free of charge.
If you wish to make comments or representations about any of the above proposals you should do so in writing to the Planning Services Manager, Civic Centre, Beecroft Road, Cannock, WS11 1BG or by emailing to developmentcontrol@cannockchasedc.gov.uk by 09/08/2018 Please include a daytime telephone number in your reply and quote the appropriate reference when calling or writing.
How we use your information:
We will publish your information on our website to enable other agencies such as statutory and non-statutory consultees and individuals interested in viewing and/or commenting on the application. We will redact signatures and private telephone numbers before publishing online and can remove your email address on request. For those customers commenting on planning applications we do need a postal address to enable fair consideration of comments.
Cannock Chase District Council is the data controller. You can find information about how we handle your personal information by visiting www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk/privacynotices.

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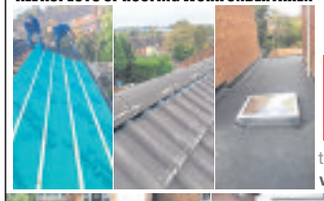

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Express & Star

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Boss Moore's merry over Scottish trip

ALBION boss Darren Moore says his side have taken plenty of positives from their pre-season trip to Scotland.

The Baggies have been ramping up their preparations for the 2018/19 campaign by taking part in a gruelling training camp at St Andrew's University.

Those put through their paces included new goalkeeper Sam Johnstone as well as James Morrison, who is battling to prove his fitness and earn a new deal.

And Moore said he was pleased with the progress his players made. "In terms of the group moving to the next stage of our preparations, I couldn't be more satisfied," the boss said.

"The group have applied themselves really, really well.

"We're seeing good signs developing within the group," he added.

"The application from the players has been magnificent in terms of their going about their work and achieving here what we set out to do."

Golf day in memory of late, great Cyrille

AN Albion supporters' club is holding a golf day in memory of Cyrille Regis that will be attended by his widow Julia.

Alan Jones-Bratt, founder of the West Bromwich Albion Supporters' Golf Club, has organised the Cyrille Regis Memorial Golf Day at Sandwell Park Golf Club for Friday, August 17.

As well as honouring Regis's memory, any money raised will be donated to the family. Julia has agreed to play a round and ill be entering a team of four. She said: "It's wonderful they want to honour Cyrille's legacy by dedicating the day to his memory."

Former Albion and Villa boss Ron Atkinson and ex-Villa player Steve Staunton could also play. Jones-Bratt is looking for sponsors and players keen to join in.

Julia is also planning to organise her own golf day to remember Cyrille at a later date. To play in, or to sponsor the memorial golf day, call 07786708362. The closing date for entries is August 3.

Diffusion are spot on to net national spoils

DIFFUSION FC Veterans defied the heatwave and a stern test to put their rivals on the spot in a national competition.

The Wolverhampton side overcame a Walthamstow-based Interwood side featuring Barry Hayles and Leon Constantine to be crowned as Over-40s national champions on penalties.

The shoot-out success in thee national final at Lilleshall followed a 1-1 draw in normal time. Paul Whyte had equalised for Diffusion.

"It was a really hot day and we were up against a very good and physical side, but the game was played in a great atmosphere," said Diffusion player-manager Andrew Sperling.

Successful penalty takers for Diffusion were former professionals Dean Bennett and Jake Sedgemore, captain and man-of-the-match Rob Perks, and Whyte.

"There were 22 very tired players coming off at the end in such hot conditions, but we went off and had a couple of beers to celebrate," said Sperling.

Youngsters from St Thomas's Primary putt their skills to the test

Rylan Povey, aged 11, and Maddison Mitchel,12

Stowheath leave school rivals green with envy

SPORTING FEATURE

By Nick Elwell

"We are keen to introduce youngsters to the sport and James will be holding some summer camps during the holidays."

STOWHEATH Primary School are top of the class when it comes to golf.

Youngsters from the school claimed victory in the Wolverhampton Primary Tri Golf Festival, held at Penn Golf Club.

The popular annual event continues to go from strength to strength with 30 schools from the city taking part in the qualifying rounds. Six schools – Stowheath, St Thomas C of E, St Andrews C of E, Palmers Cross, Bhylls Acre, and Rakegate – battled their way through to the final shootout for glory.

And it was Stowheath who came out on top with Bhylls Acre claiming the runners-up spot and St Andrews C of E completing the top three.

It meant the trio of schools were able to go on to represent Wolverhampton at the Black Country Games.

Enjoyed

Partnerships and Schools Sports (PASS) worked with Penn Golf Club to stage the final, with the host club deeming it a huge success.

"There were 66 pupils from six schools taking part and they all seemed to have enjoyed the day," said Penn GC secretary Mick Woodhouse.

"They were from the schools that had won the various festivals that were held during the spring term in secondary schools across Wolverhampton.

St Andrews C of E School youngsters

Rakegate Primary were among those taking part

"There were six different events featuring various challenges for the youngsters. We closed down the first and second holes and also used the putting green.

"And there was a bunker challenge which they all enjoyed. It was a great day and it ended with our lady captain, Angela Hughes, and club professional, James Wright, presenting the prizes."

Penn are pro-active when it comes to encouraging junior participation and Woodhouse is hoping the event will help produce golfers of the future.

"It's great to see youngsters getting an introduction to the sport," he said.

"This was probably the first time some of them had played on a golf course.

"There were several parents there supporting their children and from the club's point of view it would be great if a few of the youngsters took up the sport and joined our junior section.

"We are keen to introduce youngsters to the sport and James will be holding some summer camps during the holidays.

"We have managed to obtain some funding from the golf foundation to help with the cost."

As well as the primary school participants, there were also a number of secondary school students from Our Lady and St Chads on hand to ensure the event ran smoothly.

Rebecca Gingell, school games organiser/director of specialism at Our Lady & St Chad Catholic Academy, said: "Pupils from Our Lady and St Chad Academy officiated and led the year four pupils though all the activities.

"It was a great day, providing young people with the opportunity to play golf on a real golf course and start on the club pathway. A big thank you to the club and OLSC for the support and delivery of the day."

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Sport

Youngsters putt their golf skills to the test

Page 51

HEDNESFORD TOWN

Aug 18	**Scarborough Athletic**	**H**
Aug 20	Basford United	A
Aug 25	**Gainsborough Trinity**	**H**
Aug 27	Farsley Celtic	A
Sep 1	Whitby Town	A
Sep 4	**Stafford Rangers**	**H**
Sep 11	Mickleover Sports	A
Sep 15	**Workington**	**H**
Sep 25	**Buxton**	**H**
Sep 29	Marine	A
Oct 2	Grantham Town	A
Oct 6	**Warrington Town**	**H**
Oct 9	Nantwich Town	A
Oct 13	**South Shields**	**H**
Oct 16	**Lancaster City**	**H**
Oct 20	Matlock Town	A
Nov 3	**Bamber Bridge**	**H**
Nov 17	Hyde United	A
Nov 24	**Mickleover Sports**	**H**
Dec 1	Workington	A
Dec 8	**Whitby Town**	**H**
Dec 15	Stafford Rangers	A
Dec 22	**Witton Albion**	**H**
Dec 26	North Ferriby United	A
Jan 1	**Farsley Celtic**	**H**
Jan 5	Scarborough Athletic	A
Jan 12	Stalybridge Celtic	A
Jan 19	**Basford United**	**H**
Jan 26	Bamber Bridge	A
Feb 2	**Hyde United**	**H**
Feb 9	Warrington Town	A
Feb 16	**Marine**	**H**
Feb 23	Buxton	A
Mar 2	**Grantham Town**	**H**
Mar 16	**Nantwich Town**	**H**
Mar 23	Lancaster City	A
Mar 30	**Matlock Town**	**H**
Apr 6	South Shields	A
Apr 13	**Stalybridge Celtic**	**H**
Apr 20	Gainsborough Trinity	A
Apr 22	**North Ferriby United**	**H**
Apr 27	Witton Albion	A

CHASETOWN

Aug 18	**Mossley**	**H**
Aug 21	Runcorn Linnets	A
Aug 27	**Kidsgrove Athletic**	**H**
Sep 1	Prescot Cables	A
Sep 11	**Market Drayton**	**H**
Sep 15	Droylsden	A
Sep 22	**Trafford**	**H**
Sep 25	Newcastle Town	A
Sep 29	**Clitheroe**	**H**
Oct 2	**Atherton Collieries**	**H**
Oct 6	Ramsbottom United	A
Oct 20	**Skelmersdale United**	**H**
Nov 3	Colwyn Bay	A
Nov 10	**Glossop North End**	**H**
Nov 17	Widnes	A
Nov 24	Kendal Town	A
Dec 1	**Colne**	**H**
Dec 8	Radcliffe	A
Dec 15	**Runcorn Linnets**	**H**
Dec 22	Mossley	A
Dec 26	**Leek Town**	**H**
Jan 1	Kidsgrove Athletic	A
Jan 5	**Droylsden**	**H**
Jan 12	Trafford	A
Jan 19	Skelmersdale United	A
Jan 26	**Colwyn Bay**	**H**
Feb 2	Glossop North End	A
Feb 16	**Widnes**	**H**
Feb 23	**Newcastle Town**	**H**
Mar 2	Clitheroe	A
Mar 16	**Ramsbottom United**	**H**
Mar 23	Atherton Collieries	A
Mar 30	Colne	A
Apr 6	**Kendal Town**	**H**
Apr 13	Market Drayton	A
Apr 20	**Prescot Cables**	**H**
Apr 22	Leek Town	A
Apr 27	**Radcliffe**	**H**

Cannock firm boosts motorsport success

Action at Chateau Impney

A CANNOCK foodservice provider sponsored the annual Chateau Impney Hill Climb motorsport event.

Bidfood acted as a key event partner to the competition, as well as hosting an exclusive Bidfood Tosti prosecco bar. This is the second year that the depot in Cannock has sponsored the event, but this year with an added twist.

The Chateau Impney Hill Climb is one of the Midlands' most thrilling events, hosting more than 19,000 attendees witnessing more than 200 competitors strive to write their names in a new chapter of the venue's motorsport history.

The event consisted of the 200-plus drivers being split up into 18 classes, all in for the chance of winning trophies such as 'The Fastest Time Of The Day' and 'Fastest In Each Class'.

Steve Wood, head of free trade sales for Bidfood's Midlands West depot, said: "The day was a brilliant success. Following on from last year's success, the event saw the addition of new exciting elements, including the introduction of fast Supercars, a Bidfood prosecco bar and a jazz lounge sponsored by Bidfood, all to help boost the Chateau's hospitality offering."

PITMEN HOLD LEAGUE SIDE

HEDNESFORD Town played out an entertaining goalless draw with League Two side Mansfield Town in the first home pre-season fixture.

Stefan Galinski and Tom Hill, who had both put pen to paper in the week, continued in the starting line-up which saw nine of the 11 being signed, along with two trialists.

Highly rated non-league hotshot Hill joined from Wolverhampton Sporting Community. The centre-forward was on fire with West Midlands Regional League Premier Division champions Sporting last season as he plundered 59 goals.

That feat earned recognition as Hill, 22, landed a place in Jamie Vardy's V9 Academy. He has stepped up three divisions to sign for Rob Smith's Pitmen. Hill impressed as a triallist as he netted in the 4-0 friendly win over Heath Hayes.

Potential

Smith said: "Tom has been prolific at lower level, and a lot of interest has been shown in him over the course of the last 12 months.

"He is now desperate to test himself at a higher level and has great potential. I'm really pleased to be able to bring him to Keys Park."

The Pitmen were playing against AFC Wulfrunians on Tuesday and have added added two pre-season fixtures to their summer calendar.

On Saturday they host a Rugby Town side managed by former Hednesford player Carl Adams, with a 3pm kick-off. Then on August 11, Chasetown are the hosts for the final pre-season fixture ahead of the new Northern Premier League campaign on August 18.

● Chasetown went down 3-2 at Stoke outfit Abbey Hulton in a game which saw a flurry of late goals. The first half saw a plethora of unknown names to the Chasetown faithful. Goalkeeper Josh Allen, Josh Sedgley, James and Mike O'Reilly, Jake Lovatt and Joe Thomas were the familiar names in the starting line-up.

Tennis club to welcome families

The open day will provide families with the opportunity to take part in coach-led sessions

CHESLYN Hay Tennis Club is looking forward to introducing new juniors and adults to the sport on Saturday.

Part of the Great British Tennis Weekend, the open day, from 9.30am to 1pm at Cheslyn Hay Leisure Centre, will provide families with the opportunity to take part in informal, coach-led sessions.

Families will be able to take part in fun games and activities for all ages – six to 70 – and standards.

There will be plenty of opportunities to play, with Mini Tennis for 7-11 year olds from 9.30 to 10.30am, Junior Tennis for 11-15 year olds from 10.30 to 11.30am and Adults & Family turn-up-and-play sessions from 9.30am to 1pm.

Qualified Level 3 tennis coach Chris Perrin, who is organising the open day, said: "We are looking forward to inviting new players to the venue on Saturday.

"Just turn up, as we provide the rackets and the balls and enjoy a fun environment to play tennis whatever your level."

To find out more about the club visit cheslynhaytennis.com or email cheslynhaytennis@live.com or Chris Perrin on 07969 829318.

Hawks keep in touch with the leaders

C & R HAWKS crushed Attock by 130 runs in the Birmingham League Division Two, keeping hot on the heels of leaders Walmley. A century from Kabir Ali (101) was the highlight after Omar Ali (55) and Valeed Butt (41) put together an opening partnership of 102.

Zayn Hussain picked up three expensive wickets for Attock conceding 96 runs from 17 overs. Apart from a fourth wicket stand of 79 between Mohammed Nafeez (73) and Qamar Khan (39), Attock found the going tough against Kabir Ali (4-55) and Awais Khurshid (3-19), falling away to 172 all out.

Penkridge lost to Streetly by five runs at Pillaton. Streetly were restricted to 132 all out after a fine opening spell from Aqab Ahmed (5-40) with Sangar Mangalorkar scoring 44 for the visitors.

He then proved to be Penkridge's nemesis with the ball, finishing with 5-38 as they were dismissed for 127. Steve Hinton took 3-39 as he and Mangalorkar reduced Penkridge to 90-8 but an unbeaten 42 from Ishaq Mohammed almost won the day for the home side.

Ravi Nagra (100 not out from 69 balls) steered Old Hill to 272-3 at Milford Hall in Division Three after Harry Baddams (71) and Zain Shahid (57) laid a solid platform. Milford crumbled to 149 all out in response, Joshua Russell top scoring with 47. Shahid and Jehagir Baig picked up three wickets each for Old Hill.

Simon Douglas and Maisam Hasnain were the top scorers as Newport reached 241-9 at Lichfield. Jack Warren chipped in with 3-40 before Lichfield finished 58 runs short on 183 all out.

Beth could miss 2019 World Cup

CANNOCK'S Commonwealth gold medallist Beth Cobden is a major doubt for next year's Netball World Cup after suffering up a serious knee injury.

The former Five Ways Primary School pupil, from Heath Hayes, was carried off 14 minutes into the Superleague final as her Loughborough side lost to Wasps.

England Netball chiefs said the 25-year-old had ruptured her anterior cruciate ligament, and will miss the 2018-19 international season.

They said they were unable to put an exact timeframe on her return.

★★★

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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the Kia range of vehicles are between Urban: 29.1 (9.7) – 80.7 (3.5), Extra-Urban: 46.3 (6.1) – 94.2 (3.0) and Combined: 38.2 (7.4) – 88.3 (3.2). The official CO_2 emissions for the Kia range of vehicles are between 86 -189g/km. MPG figures are official EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results. 7 year /100,000 mile manufacturer's warranty. For terms and exclusions visit kia.co.uk or see your local dealer. *You will not own the vehicle until all payments are made. T&C's apply. Subject to status. 18s or over. Guarantee/indemnity may be required. Further charges may be made subject to the condition or mileage of the vehicle. At the end of the agreement there are 3 options: (i) Renew: Part exchange the vehicle. (ii) Retain: Pay the Optional Final Payment to own the vehicle or (iii) Return the vehicle. Kia Motors Finance RH1 1SR. Price and specification is subject to change without notice. Offers subject to stock availability, terms and conditions. **Acorn Kia is a credit broker not a lender for this financial promotion. We can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers and may receive a commission from them for the introduction.** Pictures for illustration purposes only.

This weekend – only at Acorn Kia

with up to £1500 deposit contribution*

and 3 years 4.9% APR Finance*

3 YEARS 4.9% APR*

NEW KIA PICANTO '2'

1.0 Hatchback 5dr

Bluetooth® with Music Streaming • 3.8" Monochrome Audio display with RDS • Air Conditioning

OUR PRICE £10740
WITH £750 DEPOSIT CONTRIBUTION*

£199 DEPOSIT & **£176** PER MONTH x36

3 YEARS 4.9% APR*

ALL-NEW KIA STONIC '2'

Estate 98bhp 1.4 Mpi 5dr

7" Display with DAB/RDS Radio and MP3 Compatibility Apple CarPlay & Android Auto via Connectivity

OUR PRICE £15900
WITH £1500 DEPOSIT CONTRIBUTION*

£1250 DEPOSIT & **£195** PER MONTH x36

3 YEARS 4.9% APR*

NEW KIA NIRO '2'

Estate 1.6 Gdi Hybrid

7" Touchscreen Satellite Navigation with European Mapping Kia Connected Services Featuring TomTom®

OUR PRICE £21355
WITH £500 DEPOSIT CONTRIBUTION*

£2000 DEPOSIT & **£271** PER MONTH x36

REPRESENTATIVE EXAMPLE: KIA PICANTO '2' 1.0 5DR*

Cash price of vehicle	Deposit	Kia Deposit Contribution	36 monthly payments of	1 final payment of	The guaranteed future value is	Total amount payable	Duration of agreement	Representative
£10,740.00	£199.00	£750.00	£176.87	£4,486.50	£4,486.50	£11,802.82	37 months	4.9% APR*

Based on annual mileage of 6,000 miles per annum.

7 YEAR WARRANTY* QUALITY REDEFINED

Call Acorn Kia to book your test drive and for more details of the fantastic offers available this weekend.

KIA The Power to Surprise

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